

F111 fighter bombers hit target in Kuwait as 35-mile slick spreads south

US air strike stems flow of oil into Gulf

By MARTIN FLETCHER

AMERICAN bombers have blown up part of a Kuwaiti oil complex in an attempt to staunch the flow of millions of gallons of crude oil into the Gulf. General Norman Schwarzkopf, the commander of Operation Desert Storm, said last night that American F111 fighter bombers fired "smart bombs" at two small manifold stations to stop them pumping oil. Film taken by cameras in the missiles' nosecones showed them hitting their targets. The stations controlled the flow of oil between the storage facilities at Mina al-Ahmed and the Sea Island terminal more than eight miles off the coast, from which the Iraqis have been pumping crude oil for several days.

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16 had been checked. "I can tell you that we saw absolutely no indication at all that any US military action caused this to happen."

Yesterday, the slick was still floating south, polluting long stretches of the Saudi coastline and threatening the desalting plants that provide drinking water to most of the kingdom's eastern province.

Over the weekend, officials in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain prepared booms and chemical dispersants to try to keep the slick at bay. President Bush announced the urgent dispatch of a team of top US oil spill experts, and the Norwegian anti-pollution tanker Al Waasi, which happened to be in port in the southern Gulf, headed north to help.



Grim outlook: an allied soldier surveys the heavily polluted beach at Khafji, northern Saudi Arabia, where oil from Kuwait has drifted ashore

Somali leader flees in tank



Mohamed Siad Barre, the President of Somalia, was reported to have escaped in a tank from rebels who overran his palace in Mogadishu and seized the radio station after four weeks of fierce fighting. Page 18

Poll success

The handling of the Gulf crisis by John Major, the prime minister, has given him a "satisfaction rating" of 61 per cent among voters, according to a Mori opinion poll. The poll also gives the Conservatives a five-point lead over Labour. Page 6

Green warning

The world's rich countries will have to change their economies profoundly if they are to cope with the environmental challenges now facing them, according to a survey by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Page 7

School plea

Britain is falling behind some of its European partners in recognising the important role of independent schools in the 1990s, writes Geoffrey Parker, the chairman of the Headmasters' Conference. Page 24

Power sell-off

The government is proceeding this week with floating the electricity generators, PowerGen and National Power, whose pathfinder prospectus is released on Friday. Page 19

Giantkillers lose

Woking, the last non-league side in the FA Cup, 0-1 to first division Everton in a fourth round game. Arsenal and Leeds drew 0-0 and will replay at Elland Road on Wednesday. Page 32

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Hint by King of wider war aims

By MICHAEL EVANS

DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SADDAM Hussein is not going to be allowed to withdraw from Kuwait with his military machine intact to start another war in six months, Tom King, the defence secretary, said yesterday. His warning, the strongest yet from the government, was the clearest evidence to date that Washington and London will not be satisfied with fulfilling only part of the United Nations security council resolution which authorised the use of force to expel Iraq from Kuwait. The last line of resolution 678 placed a responsibility on the allies "to restore peace and security in the area", Mr King said. People had "overlooked" this.

If Kuwait were liberated but Saddam merely withdrew to his border with his military machine "poised on the other side" to repeat the exercise as soon as the allies had gone, that would not meet the conditions set by the resolution. Mr King said on BBC Radio Four's *The World This Week* that "it would be manifestly betraying all those prepared to fight and to risk their lives - some have already sadly lost their lives - to leave this half-finished, to have the same problem reoccurring in six months or a year."

His remarks, underlining the feeling that the war aims now extend beyond expelling Iraqi forces from Kuwait, clashed with a statement in Cairo.

Egypt, the most heavily committed Arab partner of the multinational coalition in the Gulf, with about 35,000 troops in Saudi Arabia said the allies' aim should be simply to liberate Kuwait.

Boutros Boutros Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, said his country did not seek Saddam's overthrow. He said that Cairo could co-exist with, and would even welcome, a powerful Iraq as being in the interests of all Arabs in the region.

General Schwarzkopf said the planes were predominantly fighters and included some of the best in the Iraqi air force, which has just over 800 combat aircraft. He said the allied air campaign had been destroying "one by one" the hardened bunkers which have been sheltering Iraqi planes and speculated: "Maybe they have decided they can't afford to lose any more aircraft."

Two US F15s shot down four Iraqi MiGs south east of Baghdad yesterday, bringing the number of successful air-to-air engagements to 23 and the number of Iraqi aircraft known to have been destroyed to about 50. "Every time they fly we shoot them down," said General Schwarzkopf.

Neither General Schwarzkopf nor Richard Cheney, the US defence secretary, were able to say for certain whether the pilots were defecting, or seeking to protect their aircraft from destruction, but both were confident that Iran would impound them for the duration of the war. Mr Cheney noted that there was "no love lost between the Iraqis and the Iraqis".

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Pay more or risk US cuts, Europeans told

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND MICHAEL BINYON

Wednesday. Whitehall sources say that the soaring cost of action to disperse the oil slick, to which Britain and others would presumably have to contribute, is another important factor that will have to be considered.

The likely suggested contributors are the Japanese, the Germans, the Kuwaitis, the Saudis and the United Arab Emirates. James Baker, the American Secretary of State, announced at the weekend that Saudi Arabia is to give a further \$12.5 billion to the allied war effort, bringing the total international support for the first three months of 1991 to \$36 billion.

The money will go to defray the American costs of the war, estimated by some analysts to be up to \$50 billion for the first three months of this year. There is some bitterness in Whitehall that Washington has managed to offset about two-thirds of its war costs, whereas Britain, with the second largest force in the Gulf, has covered only a third of its expenses.

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Emergency in Soviet Union near

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A STATE of emergency is perilously close in the Soviet Union after President Gorbachev decreed sweeping new powers at the weekend for spot checks on businesses.

The decree empowers the KGB and interior ministry to enter the premises of any business and carry out audits on their stocks, accounts and cash.

The move came as liberals and Baltic separatists denounced another scheme which allows for the military to join police patrols on city streets throughout the Soviet Union.

The Lithuanian president, Vytautas Landsbergis, described the troops plan as "another act of aggression".

Colonel Viktor Alksnis, a leading advocate of the army clampdown, said in an article that civil war appeared inevitable and hinted that the army could rebel.

Sweeping powers, page 8

Beatings persist, page 8

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Saudis brace for ecological disaster as slicks drift closer

THIS corner of Arabia, which has given the world much of its oil wealth, yesterday found itself facing an ecological disaster which a leading Saudi oil expert said was far more serious than realised when the first television pictures shocked Western viewers 24 hours earlier.

Abdel Aziz al-Hokail, a senior vice-president of the giant Saudi Aramco oil company, said that to date, coastal pollution had not been caused as presumed by the main slick stretching 30 miles long and eight miles wide, but by a secondary one, much smaller — some two miles in length — which probably came from a different source.

"What we have seen so far may only be the start. We do not know what will happen to the large slick which is still two or three miles from the coast and moving south," Mr al-Hokail said. "The terrible damage that has been shown so far was from a smaller slick which had already washed up on the coast by Saturday."

The smaller slick may either be

a breakaway from the larger one, still being augmented yesterday by oil being pumped into it by Iraq at a rate of 200,000 barrels a day, or have been caused by the attack on a border oil terminal at Al-Khafji by Iraqi shells soon after the war began. That has continued to blacken the air with a plume of black smoke from a still burning fire.

Black-coated seabirds, mostly local sooties cormorants and visiting gulls limped ashore to die in their thousands, and the waters along the ugly length of the larger slick occasionally caught fire like huge ovens inconspicuously sprouting from the water. The imminence of a land war between Iraq and the allies was hampering attempts to cope.

Some of the handful of journalists able to penetrate the stricken area, officially out of bounds due to censorship restrictions, killed some of the stricken birds out of pity as no help appeared at hand or likely to arrive in a zone which for over seven days has been the scene of regular skirmishes be-

By using oil as a weapon, Iraq has posed a threat to vital desalination plants along the Gulf coast, Christopher Thomas writes from Ras Mishaab, Saudi Arabia

tween the two armies. American soldiers digging in for battle under torrential rain which may have helped dampen the occasional fire out to sea, understandably had little time to cope with the environmental consequences of two separate attempts by Iraq to wreck oil facilities and cause pollution on a wide scale.

"I did not even stop to look at it. I can't be worrying about birds. I am too worried about my own butt," said one of the Marines based in the area, in one of the American units closest to the enemy which regularly opens fire at night with Soviet-made Frog rockets and artillery. Another marine sergeant, eating baked beans from a plastic bag as water dripped from his helmet,

said: "People out here have got more on their minds than oil and birds. It seems crazy that some people out there seem more worried about what happens to a cormorant than what happens to us."

With a stiff prevailing wind blowing the main slick inexorably south in the direction of al-Jubail, the port which houses Saudi Arabia's largest water desalination plant (it provides 90 per cent of municipal water to the capital, Riyadh), neither Saudi nor Western experts were prepared to predict when the main slick would come closer.

"It is a terrible thing," said a senior Saudi security officer who had witnessed the first effects of the disaster. "It will kill the fish, ruin our desalination plants."

He then shook his head and wrung his hands in despair. "It is very, very bad. I think he (Saddam) did this because he fears attack from the water. He can just set it alight. This crude will burn." Experts dispute this contention. The majority feel that although it could burn initially, the fires were likely to be sporadic and to burn out after 24 hours.

A Saudi soldier manning a checkpoint within artillery range of the Iraqis, was philosophical. "This is war. What can we do? My worry is that there will be more bad things when the shooting starts in a bigger way."

Senior Western sources have told Saudi officials that a land war can now be expected to begin in about a fortnight.

About the struggling birds and treacherous waters of a closed sea that now even sounds different (its waves no longer splash, they gurgle in a muted fashion) are the most obvious results of a disaster blamed by the Pentagon on "environmental terrorism," de-

mage to water desalination plants poses a far greater strategic threat which could even effect the course of the war.

Already in some shops in Eastern Saudi Arabia owners were reporting a run on bottled water, although senior Saudi officials gave public assurances that the plants could be successfully defended by booms. Some, nearly a mile long and a yard deep, were being hastily installed yesterday in a race against time, the wind and the current.

Officials said that there were four desalination plants on the east coast of Saudi Arabia, each costing at least \$1.5-billion to construct and now threatened by a slick which some Western observers claimed was already twice the size as that given by Mr al-Hokail at his afternoon briefing.

The largest slick is expected to reach the plant at al-Jubail tomorrow. One of the Saudi officials who will be joined by Western pollution experts over the next 72 hours admitted: "Oil

booms and chemical agents will be used to protect the plants and crucial ports. But for the beaches and the fish, we can do nothing."

Among the various forms of wildlife which, according to Mr Walter Vreeland, a pollution expert from neighbouring Bahrain, could be effected in less than a week when the spill reaches the centre of the Gulf are birds, fish, dolphins, sea snakes turtles and crabs.

Efforts to recruit international assistance to assist in fighting the disaster will be made, but as one Western oil engineer explained with a shrug: "In the best possible circumstances, this spill would still have been hard to handle. In conditions of war, it could be impossible to get a proper grip for months, or even years."

Underlying the concern was an unstated realisation that the disaster now affecting both Saudi Arabia and occupied Kuwait could only be a forerunner of what is to come if President Saddam sticks to his apocalyptic threats to sabotage oil installations.

EMERGENCY MEASURES

Operation to clean up after spill will have limited effect

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

SAUDI Arabia yesterday threw oil booms around the intakes of its desalination plants and chartered the only specialist oil pollution vessel in the Gulf in an attempt to control what may be the world's biggest oil pollution disaster.

The crew of the Norwegian-owned Al Waasit, docked at Dubai, were ready to sail as soon as four Norwegian experts arrived. Captain Marvin Pinto, the managing director of Norpol Marine, the ship's owners, said they had helped to deal with a huge spill in 1983, during the war between Iraq and Iran.

Such is the size of the oil slick that experts believe technology can do little to clean it up. The area covered by the oil is at least 240 square miles, and possibly much larger, while the Al Waasit can deal with only half a square mile a day.

Abdullah Toukan, the head of the Higher Council for Science and Technology in Jordan and a scientific adviser to King Hussein, said unless the oil could be turned off at source there was little that booms and skimmers could do to help. "The oil is coming from 20 and 30 inch pipes at the terminal in Kuwait. Already more oil has reached the sea than in the 1983 spill and in two days it will reach the Saudi desalination plant at Al Jubail."

Estimates of the total amount of oil that has reached the Gulf from the terminal and from tankers at the Ahmadi loading complex, south of Kuwait City, vary from one million barrels to as much as eight million. According to British military sources it is moving south at about one mile an hour.

Most Gulf states have taken emergency measures to protect their coasts, throwing plastic booms several hundred yards long around the inlets to their desalination plants, which provide more than 70 per cent of the region's water. "Unfortunately, we can't

do much more. From here on, we are restricted to waiting and speculation," said Harold Vreeland, an adviser to Bahrain's environmental protection committee.

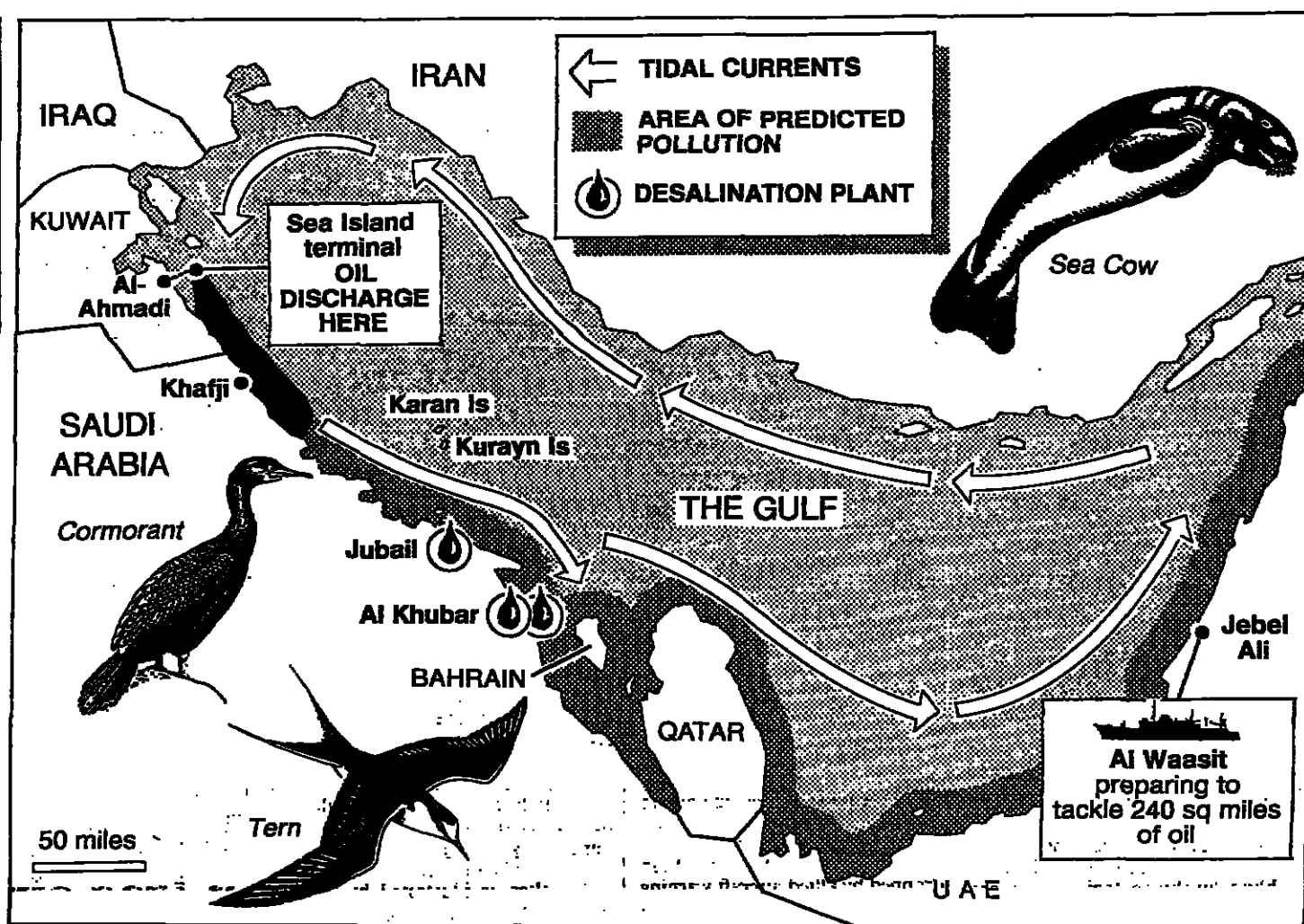
In Tehran, the director of the Iranian environmental agency, Hadi Manafi, appealed for international help to fight the spill, which threatened the coast of the entire Gulf region. It is being swept around the Gulf by the prevailing winds, which blow from the northwest, and by the system of currents, which flow counter-clockwise around the Gulf.

Saudi officials said the slick would not force them to close any coastal plants producing drinking water or power. Experience in dealing with oil spills during the Iran-Iraq war had prepared the kingdom for such problems, Abdulrahman al-Gain, head of the Saudi Arabian protection agency, said. "There is no risk to the kingdom's desalination or electrical generation capability."

He said the slick would affect marine life and fisheries in the narrow waterway for years. After the 1983 spill, it was estimated that 15 per cent of the shrimps in the Gulf had been destroyed. The Saudis will try to avoid using chemical dispersants, believing them to be more harmful than the oil. "We will not want to clean up until the oil stops coming to shore," Mr al-Gain said.

Military and environmental experts face a succession of problems. The most urgent is to turn the oil off at source. Yesterday Tom King, the defence secretary, said that military action to achieve that was being discussed. By bombing the tanks at the loading complex at Ahmadi, the allies might be able to prevent the Iraqis refilling the tanks, which feed the open pipeline offshore.

Leading article, page 11



ECOLOGICAL WARFARE

No hiding place in a blackened sea

By DR PETER VINE

THE deliberate release of oil into the Gulf is not the first time that the Iraqis have resorted to ecological warfare. In 1983, at the height of the war with Iran, they blew up the Norwuz oil platform west of Kharg Island. Eight months later, the Iranian wells were still leaking at 2,000 to 5,000 barrels per day, which ecologists felt would spell disaster for many key habitats and species in the waterway, and for desalination plants in Bahrain, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

A human catastrophe was partially averted by a strong offshore wind. Eventually the slick dispersed and beaches were cleaned. Remarkably, despite countless dead seabirds, fish, turtles and even endangered dugongs (sea cows) washing up on the shores of the Gulf, marine life showed incredible resilience.

But there is no guarantee that the dugong will survive this occasion. This spill is on a different scale to anything the Gulf has experienced. The largest oil spill ever could not have happened in a worse place. The previous contender for such a dubious honour was the Exxon Valdez tanker. That spill, of 10 million gallons in Alaskan coastal waters, killed at least 23,000 migratory birds, 730 otters, and members of many other species. At least that pollution was in direct contact with the open ocean. Now, much larger quanti-

ties have been released into a shallow sea where water replenishment from the Indian Ocean is severely limited. With an average depth of only 35 metres, nowhere in the Gulf is deep enough for marine life to escape.

Greater depths off Iran and shallower waters off Saudi Arabia contribute to the flow pattern. The Strait of Hormuz forms a bottleneck, causing salinity rates, and hence density, to rise. As the denser water sinks, it draws in water from the Indian Ocean, setting up an anti-clockwise circulation. Bad news for Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states since the prevailing current from the Al-Ahmadi spill is in their direction.

Surface-dependent and intertidal marine life is now being killed. Soon the oil will affect all creatures, from sea birds, turtles, sea-snakes, porpoises and dugongs, through the midwater zone of plankton-feeding anchovies and larger fish, down to the rich seabed where meadows of seagrasses sustain commercially important shrimps and pearl oysters among a host of other species. The spill comes at a particularly bad time: shrimps are at the height of their spawning season, and larvae are entering the water column at the most vulnerable stage of their lifecycle.

There could be almost as much danger from oil dispersants. Recent studies on the effects of these

chemicals on shrimps in the UK indicate that they inhibit the ability of males to find females, or of either sex to find food.

When the spring migrant birds arrive in a few weeks' time, vast numbers seeking refuge on the small offshore islands will find that the tidal flats where they traditionally feed are as lethal to them as uncleaned Iraqi minefields to the allied forces. It must be hoped that the huge colony of cormorants raising their young on a small island in the southern Gulf will have fledged and fled south

before the slick reaches them. Further north, thousands of migrating shore and land birds depend for both food and rest on the richly productive intertidal flats, which Gulf states have long been urged to preserve. Small islands provide summer breeding grounds for lesser-crested, white-cheeked and crested terns, and it remains to be seen how those will fare.

Dr Peter Vine is a marine biologist and author who has written extensively on the ecology of the Gulf.

CHRIS HARRIS



Oil victim: a cormorant on a polluted beach in Saudi Arabia

REACTION

Spillage changes German approach

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

GERMANY is to become much more involved in the Gulf war, largely because of the huge oil slick seeping down the Arabian coast. Although anti-war feeling and legal and political pressures have limited German contributions so far, the pollution has rapidly changed attitudes.

The government has immediately offered to send personnel and materials to provide technical and practical help in the fight against the slick. This week, Bonn will study plans to increase oil taxes as a way of raising the money needed.

Before the spillage, the idea of sending men to the Gulf or of raising taxes to pay for the war would have run into a storm of protest. Now it is likely to be accepted, although opinion polls and a 200,000-strong demonstration in Bonn on Saturday show that there is no support for direct German involvement in the war.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign minister, phoned James Baker, the American Secretary of State, to offer German help the moment he heard about the oil slick. Herr Genscher said in a radio interview yesterday: "We are confronting a new war crime in the Gulf, environmental war crime. This shows that the dictator in Baghdad will stop at nothing to achieve his aims. His aims are obvious. He wants to rule the Arab world and destroy Israel."

Theo Waigel, the finance minister, is planning on increasing the tax on oil by 20 pfennigs (7p) a litre, which would bring in an extra DM10 billion (£2.5 billion) a year. He will tell European Community finance ministers when they meet today that a significant part of this money could be available for helping to clean up the Gulf and is likely to suggest that if other EC countries follow this lead, the money needed to repair the environment would be available once the war ends.

Saturday's demonstration, the largest in Bonn since the marches against nuclear cruise missiles eight years ago, was generally peaceful. Strong appeals by leading politicians, including Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, to remember that "Saddam Hussein alone is responsible for the war" kept the protest against war but not against Bonn's allies. Boos and catcalls were directed at the small number of people carrying anti-American slogans.

Because of criticism that Germany was not giving full support, the populist paper *Bild am Sonntag* devoted its front page yesterday to an appeal to readers to write in supporting America so that President Bush could be sent true figures of German attitudes.



Ship's crew to protect desalination plants

From A CORRESPONDENT IN DUBAI

IN A war of desert camouflage, invisible bombers and drab grey warships, the gaudy yellow Al Waasit seems an unlikely weapon. But the 1,650-tonne ship will be fighting a 240-square-mile oil slick in a new kind of ecological war.

Owned by the Norwegian company Norpol Marine, she is one of only five anti-pollution tankers in the world. It is chance that the Al Waasit happened to be in port in the southern Gulf at the right moment for the biggest challenge her Indian crew of 12 have ever faced.

Last night the crew were preparing her for the short journey to Bahrain and from there to the Saudi port of Jubail, where her assignment is to protect the sea around the Saudi Water Corporation's desalination plant. The 240-square mile oil slick created by the Iraqis off the Kuwaiti coast threatens to overwhelm the Saudis' freshwater plant as it travels slowly down the Gulf. The Al Waasit is

probably their best hope. "I don't think it will be possible to clear the whole slick with a single vessel like this. Our first job is to protect the water intake systems in the area," said Al Waasit's captain, Sham Singh Khunakhu.

The crew is trained in firefighting as well as pollution control — and they are carrying gas masks along with their normal first aid equipment. In trying to neutralise the Iraqis' latest unorthodox weapon, the Al Waasit herself might become a target. It's not a risk that seems greatly to concern the crew. "We aren't worried at all. It is an adventure, and we are just out for that. If you don't take risks, you can't do anything. We can only do our best," said Captain Khunakhu.

The company which owns the ship, and which has been arranging insurance cover for the voyage, takes a slightly more cautious view. Captain Marvin Pinto, managing director of Norpol Marine, which operates the ship in the Gulf, said

he had been assured by the Saudis that his ship would be protected by naval vessels.

The Al Waasit wraps her 1,000-ft inflatable black booms around a section of the oil slick as it sails through it, channelling the oil into yellow painted steel intake valves which use a vacuum pump to suck the oil off the surface of the water at a rate of about 1000 cubic yards an hour. On board is a series of separators which clean all traces of the oil from the water which has been sucked in, before pumping the water back into the sea and the only waste into storage tanks. The ship swallows more than half a square mile of oily sludge a day.

But, with oil reportedly still gushing from the open taps at the Kuwaiti oil terminal of Mina Al-Ahmadi, no-one believes that the Al Waasit alone can clear the slick. The states of the Gulf, largely out of range of the Iraqis' missiles, know he has directed this new ecological weapon directly at them. If the pollution

is not cleared, they will be feeling the effects for years after the end of the war in their vital water purification plants, their fisheries, and their nascent tourist industries. The spectacular coral reefs of the Gulf, the fish and the birds, may never recover. It is a tactic that has aroused bitter anger.

Technologists and water department engineers, though, are hopeful that the countries along the Arabian edge of the southern Gulf might be spared the worst of the pollution even if the Al Waasit and other emergency measures fail. Some believe that even if the slick cannot be dispersed, it will take weeks to reach them. In the past, currents have swept oil spills into the deeper water of the Gulf along the Iranian coast. If that happens, wage ecological war will swing the states of the Gulf who may have cause to regret the new Iraqi weapon.

Correspondents report on Operation Desert Storm as allies prepare for land battle



Heading north: two American missile launchers being transported by lorry along the allied supply route in eastern Saudi Arabia to the Kuwaiti border

IRAQI DEFECTIONS

Hopes rise that waning morale could lead to surrender of conscripts

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

DEFECTIONS by Iraqi pilots and soldiers could become one of the key factors in deciding the way the air-land battle is finally waged by the allied forces. If the picture painted by Iraqi prisoners of war and defectors is accurate, the poor morale and limited food supplies of the conscript forces in southern Kuwait could hold out the possibility of mass surrender once the allied assault begins.

The 39 Iraqi aircraft, including one early-warning plane, which the Americans say have flown to Iran may be one of the most significant pieces of evidence so far of the state of Iraqi morale in some sections of President Saddam Hussein's armed forces. The latest development comes only a few days after the alleged execution by Saddam of his senior air force and air defence commanders over the allied bombing successes.

The only reasonable explanation for the Iraqi jets flying to Iran is that the pilots were defecting, since any attempt by the Iranian government to allow Iraqi aircraft to seek a safe haven in Iran from allied attacks would be spotted and condemned by the Americans. Tehran's position of neutrality would be exposed as a sham.

There is evidence on Iran to help with spare parts and ammunition but to no avail.

According to intelligence sources, Mohammed Saad al-Sahaf, the Iraqi deputy foreign minister, went to Tehran on January 23, specifically with an urgent request to President Rafsanjani from Saddam for supplies of anti-aircraft ammunition, shoulder-launched anti-aircraft missile systems, anti-tank missiles and "aircraft cannon". The Iranian leader rejected Saddam's appeal.

However, it emerged yesterday that Iran is sending emergency food supplies to Iraq.

The Iranian branch of the Red Crescent Society said it had decided to donate food, including

bread, dates, powdered milk and biscuits.

Similar hopes that Iraqi troops will begin to defect in large numbers have been muted until now, largely because the rate of defections has been relatively low. An estimated 500 to 600 Iraqi soldiers have crossed into Turkey and Saudi Arabia in the last few months.

But one of the reasons for the low defection rate is that Saddam has taken precautions to see that his conscript troops, who do not share the Republican Guards' blind loyalty to their leader, are forced to stay at their posts when the fighting begins.

The main disincentive for potential defectors in the south of Kuwait are the millions of mines that have now been laid, but it is acknowledged that the mines are also there to stop Iraqi soldiers from swapping sides.

Another disincentive to potential defectors is that Saddam has moved a number of Republican Guards units to mingle with the regular divisions, presumably

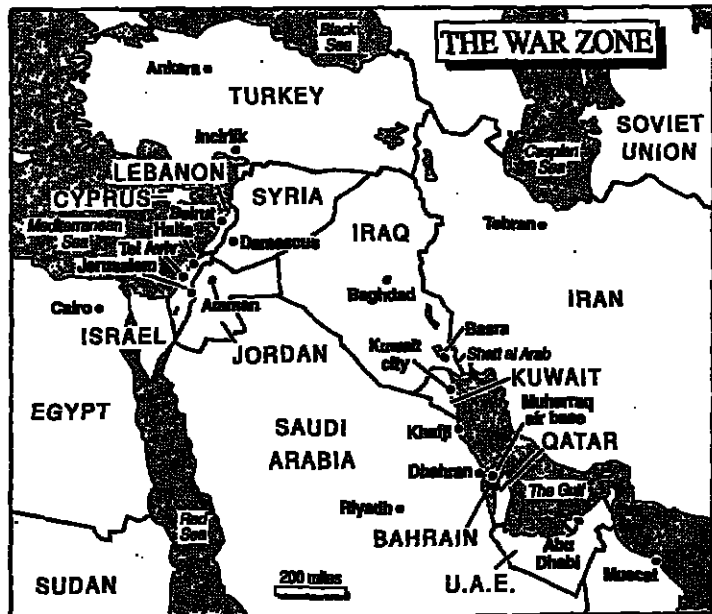
hoping that their reputation for dedicated professionalism would not only boost the fighting spirit of the less experienced conscripts but would also impose discipline on units seen to be wavering. There are some Republican Guard units in Kuwait City itself, sent to the capital to mount counter-attacks on allied amphibious sorties.

In spite of the obstacles faced by Iraqi soldiers wishing to defect, the psychological campaign to dissuade them from putting up a fight has begun in earnest.

Thousands of leaflets have been dropped by allied aircraft warning the soldiers in the front line that the time is approaching for a massive attack on their positions. The leaflets advise them in Arabic to run for safety, leaving their equipment behind.

The expectation that Iraqi soldiers will surrender in large numbers is underlined by the decision in London to send three battalions, about 1,700 men, to Saudi Arabia to deal solely with prisoners of war.

Women mobilising, page 14



PoWs

All ready for big wave of captives

From PHILIP STEPHENS IN EASTERN SAUDI ARABIA

THE land battle has yet to start, but the allied armies have already made elaborate preparations to cope with thousands of prisoners of war. President Saddam Hussein's mistreatment of captured American and British airmen has sharpened the allies' resolve to treat their prisoners strictly in accordance with the rules of war.

Iraq has 500,000 troops in Kuwait and a large proportion, particularly the conscripts, could be captured. The size of the burden of guarding them, treating their wounds and providing food and shelter, is illustrated by the plans of Britain's 1st Armoured Division. The British army has announced that three regiments of 600 men each are on their way to Saudi Arabia to guard POW camps. America might need ten times that number.

British army lawyers and administrators have drawn up detailed plans to deal with incoming prisoners just behind the front line. They range from the design of holding "cages" to which the captured soldiers will initially be taken, to the purchase of Saudi ration packs to feed them in accordance with Muslim law.

PoW rules are laid down in the Geneva Convention. Its philosophy is summed up in the extract issued to every British soldier — "to treat persons who fall into his power humanely and protect them from the dangers of war."

The allies say Iraq has broken the convention article which says that PoWs "must at all times be protected against acts of violence and intimidation and against insults and public curiosity". This article has led American forces to ban photographs identifying Iraqi prisoners already taken.

Once the British have processed prisoners, they will be sent back to much larger camps run by US forces. British army lawyers will be responsible for ensuring that their treatment is fair, including paying each prisoner a "wage" of about £3 a day, to be claimed back from Iraq after the war.

MINEFIELDS

Formidable array of defences will slow allies in Kuwait

From JEFF FRANKS IN NORTHEASTERN SAUDI ARABIA

IRAQ has laid half a million mines in Kuwait, turning it into "one big minefield" ahead of any assault by allied ground forces, American marines officers say.

The mines are part of a formidable array of defences by the Iraqi army in Kuwait, including 12ft-high parapets, oil-filled trenches, and buried storage tanks filled with explosive butane.

Major George Cutshall, a mine expert in the marines, said most of the mines were in two belts just north of the Saudi-Kuwaiti border.

He gave a warning that the entire country was likely to be mined by the time a ground war starts. Iraq had stocks of 20 million mines, many supplied by former friendly countries including America, France, the Soviet Union and Kuwait.

Lieutenant-Colonel Mitch Youngs, commanding officer of a battalion attached to the 2nd Marines Division, said Iraq's mines and barriers would be one of the most difficult obstacles for attacking ground forces and aimed

to slow the advance of tanks and troops so the Iraqis could pound the allies with artillery fire.

The mines range in power from charges that can blow a 60-tonne M1A1 tank off the ground to mines with just enough explosive to blast off a soldier's foot. Some have computer chips programmed to detonate them at a certain time in a certain way. The "Bouncing Betty" jumps four feet into the air and explodes; it has been known to cut its victims in half.

Major Cutshall said satellite photographs indicated that between December 19 and January 5 Iraqi troops laid a belt of mines 40 miles long behind border defences in eastern Kuwait. There were signs that another belt was being installed in Kuwait city. Iraq was also expected to scatter mines from the air over the rest of the country. He said that explosives and tanks equipped with ploughs could clear paths through minefields, but ground forces would still have to move carefully.

The Iraqis had marked most minefields with barbed wire fences to protect their troops, but allied bombing might blast down the markers, Major Cutshall said. Ground forces have had extensive training on breaching the barriers. He said mines were likely to cause the majority of American casualties. Mechanised units would suffer most because their vehicles would bear the burden of breaching defences.

Bernard Levin, page 10

AIR POWER

Buccaneers to lead raids on Iraq air force bunkers

From LIN JENKINS WITH THE RAF IN THE GULF

ATTACKS on Iraq's air force hidden in reinforced bunkers were being planned by the RAF pending the arrival of six ageing Buccaneers.

The aircraft, from RAF Lossiemouth, Scotland, due to be decommissioned over the next four years, have been summoned because of their laser-guided weapons system, expected to be more successful against hardened air targets than weapons carried by Tornados and Jaguars. The low-level subsonic strike bomber

carries Paveway bombs fitted with laser warheads.

They pinpoint a target's most vulnerable point, such as the doors of aircraft hangars, allowing bombs from other strike jets to be guided down the laser path. The first bomb weakens the target allowing follow-up weapons to destroy the aircraft inside. Group Captain David Henderson said: "We have seen nothing of his air force."

BRITISH INFANTRY

Home support fires Midland warriors

From PHILIP JACOBSON WITH THE 7TH ARMoured BRIGADE

AFTER due deliberation, the commanding officer of the Staffordshire Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Rogers, offers a terse description of the fighting his 800-strong unit can expect in any assault on the Iraqi lines in Kuwait.

"Eyeballing the enemy" is what it boils down to: getting in close as fast as possible, capturing ground, holding it against counter-attack. In other words, the job the infantry has always been given, at the sharp end, and largely without the protection of armoured vehicles.

For the Staffords this is now second nature, something they have been practising long and hard since arriving in Saudi Arabia three months ago. They assumed from the start that it would come to that, and without underestimating the enemy they have not the slightest doubt they will prevail.

An interesting bunch, the Staffords: infantry of the line with a long and distinguished history, but in no way "smart"

like some other foot regiments or the fancier cavalry formations. No frills about us, says a colour sergeant: a down-to-earth unit, its character defined by the 90 per cent of the soldiers who are recruited from Staffordshire and the West Midlands.

"We have a few big city boys, but most of the lads come from quiet little towns where everybody knows the Staffords." The result, an outsider feels, is a deep solidarity, even stolidity, which wedded to a keen sense of regimental pride and tradition produces the ideal infantry soldier: unexcitable, tenacious and very hard to intimidate.

For Colonel Rogers, a soft-spoken man with a ready smile, the great strength of the regiment lies in its roots. "There has been a tremendous response from the people of our area ever since we got ordered to the Gulf, masses of letters wishing us well and piles of parcels at Christmas. The men are very aware of this support back home, and I think it breeds even greater deter-

mination not to let anyone down if it comes to battle."

In a chilly dugout occupied by the reconnaissance platoon, which will often be operating ahead or on the flank of the main advance, a stocky corporal from Burton-on-Trent ("beer capital of the world, sir") explained what serving in the Staffords meant to him. "Virtually all my friends are with me here, I just don't know anyone else from back when I was at school. Most of us come from the same sort of background, working class. I suppose you'd call it, in the same sort of town, so we already have lots in common before we join up. On leave, I will almost always go out to the clubs with mates from the unit."

Being sent to Saudi Arabia, then moved up close to the Iraqi defensive lines, had intensified the feeling of belonging to a special sort of family. "Obviously people are wondering what it will be like if we go in, how they will react to combat, but I honestly think the fear of being

shown up in front of other people will overcome that. Nobody wants it to get home that he lost his nerve or did nothing to help a mate who was hit."

In another of the bunkers bequeathed by a unit that had redeployed (leaving its rubbish behind), an anti-tank team was intently studying tiny scale models of a dozen or more types of military vehicle. If the Staffords find themselves, as they expect to, holding captured positions, instant recognition of what is coming up the track could be the difference between life and death. Even so, as one NCO observes, only half-joking, in the heat of battle the best way to reckon whether a T72 tank bearing down is Iraqi or Syrian could be the direction it is pointing its gun.

As 7th Brigade's main infantry "asset", the Staffords will race into battle in waves of Warrior armoured fighting vehicles, then pile out to fight at close quarters with the latest SA80 rifle, heyo-nets fixed.

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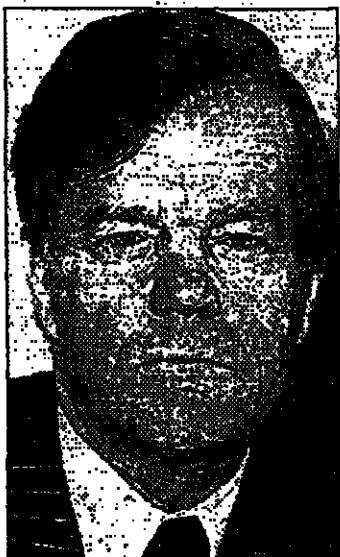
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European federalists count the costs of invasion of Kuwait



Clark: European governments "all ran for their cellars"

AS WESTERN Europe's politicians bicker about their contributions in the Gulf, those who support a federal union in Europe are in mourning and their opponents are shouting: "We told you so."

Political Europe is stillborn, a disillusioned Belgian wrote to *Le Soir* the other day. "It is not said that European countries should choose different paths," said a Portuguese columnist, "it is normal; all else is a totalitarian dream." Blithely ignoring the internal political risks President Mitterrand took to send a French contingent to the Gulf, the junior minister in the Ministry of Defence, Alan Clark, said that European governments "all ran for their cellars."

This might be a fair response to, say, the Belgian government's dithering and squabbling. But the

blow dealt to the wilder schemes for common European foreign or defence policies is not quite the simple moral tale of Britain versus The Rest that Mr Clark seems to imagine.

European federalism was under pressure before Kuwait was invaded. The long-sought integration of Western Europe tends to prosper when its economies are growing. Recession and the Gulf war oil uncertainty are already lowering expectations in the two-ministerial bargaining groups chewing over monetary and political union.

The agenda for "political union", set by Jacques Delors' European Commission and by pro-union governments, includes progress towards common foreign and defence policies. This ambition is often presented as being a natural progression from

The war has not dashed hopes of a common EC foreign policy, but just exposed the contrast which existed between ambition and reality, writes George Brock

the economic integration of the past. Building a joint foreign or defence policy machine would, in truth, be a quantum change. Back in the 1950s, a planned European defence community collapsed because of French reluctance. Three and half decades later, the core of the problem is little changed. National economies may be merging, but governments refuse to follow suit, no more stubbornly so than in matters of national security.

In economic and trade matters, the community has knitted together a highly-piggledy mix-

ture of both central authority and national powers which remain with governments. The compromise mostly works.

But foreign policy is not like trade. Decisions made by states, particularly if their survival is affected, have to be taken rapidly and executed with a determination which involves risks.

In foreign policy, the federalists have one thing dead right. There is precious little scope for compromise over the question of who runs a foreign policy. A European foreign policy would require a European government

with the powers of a state to make those rapid, risky decisions which are forced on statesmen when the stakes are high.

Subsidiarity (dispensing power to the lowest possible level) might be the buzzword of the month in Brussels but it is irrelevant to making war or peace. Uneven European contributions to the war has not "dashed" hopes of a common European foreign policy. The war has simply exposed the contrast which always existed between ambition and reality.

There will nevertheless be attempts to close the gap. Federalists say that the deficiencies revealed by the war should only redouble efforts towards political union. The negotiations on union are still faced by a proposal to decide some parts of community external policy by majority

voting. There are still some areas of foreign and defence policy agreed by the Twelve which could work more smoothly.

But a flexible system providing for ministers to switch between unanimity and majority decisions might well be a minefield. In arms-buying, where foreign, defence and economic policies meet, the European Community might well be able to stop the prodigious wasting of money by national governments.

M Delors is probably shrewd enough to have seen that political union was slowing down even before President Saddam Hussein blighted its chances. But he is additionally gloomy nowadays because the shambles of the last few weeks have also harmed the community's chances of modestly increasing its powers of political chairmanship.

SUPERPOWER RELATIONS

Divisions over conflict pose further threat to summit in Moscow

By MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Bush is likely to announce a postponement of next month's Moscow summit after meeting Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the new Soviet foreign minister, at the White House today.

Differences emerged at the weekend over the US conduct of the Gulf war, and this has increased the chances of a postponement which was already on the cards because of the Soviet crack-down in the Baltic republics and continuing disagreements on two big arms control treaties.

Before and after meeting James Baker, the US Secretary of State, on Saturday, Mr Bessmertnykh expressed concern that the American-led coalition might be tending more towards the destruction of Iraq than the liberation of Kuwait. This would exceed the UN mandate and threaten Iraqi civilians.

Mr Baker emphasised that the destruction of Iraq was not a coalition goal, and said he and Mr Bessmertnykh had agreed that the UN mandate had not been exceeded to date, but Mr Bush would nonetheless be reluctant to meet President Gorbachev from February 11 to 13 if the result was

likely to be less than a wholehearted Soviet endorsement of America's military action in the Gulf.

Mr Baker and Mr Bessmertnykh reported that "additional work" still needed to be done on the Start treaty to reduce the superpowers' strategic arms arsenals. Mr Bush and Mr Gorbachev had originally hoped to sign this at the summit. US officials are now very doubtful that the treaty can be completed in time, and also say that Moscow has yet to address US allegations that it is violating the CFE treaty to reduce conventional forces in Europe. Mr Baker and Mr Bessmertnykh will return to disarmament matters in another meeting today.

The most pressing reason for Mr Bush to postpone the summit is to show American displeasure at the Soviet intervention in the Baltic republics. Both Houses of Congress passed unanimous resolutions condemning Moscow's actions last week. Mr Bessmertnykh said he had told Mr Baker "about some elements of our domestic developments" but did not elaborate.

Before leaving Moscow, Mr Bessmertnykh gave a short press conference at which his remarks, inevitably eclipsed by his subsequent statements to Western reporters, suggested that Moscow's stance on the Gulf war is not nearly as solid as Soviet officials insist. Amidst protestations that policy on the Gulf, and everything else, was constant, he said: "On the whole, we adhere by UN security council resolutions, but there are apprehensions that we are entering the second serious phase of the conflict when, in addition to the task of liberating Kuwait envisaged in the resolutions, there is a growing threat that very grave damage will be inflicted on Iraq. In abiding by security council resolutions, we should also ensure that actions in the area do not exceed the limits set by the resolution."

The qualifications "on the whole", "a second phase", "exceed the limits set by the resolution" all represent a marked retreat from the direct support for international action favoured by Eduard Shevardnadze, his predecessor.

The distinction between forcing a withdrawal from Kuwait and destroying Iraq deserves special note, because it is one favoured by the Palestine Liberation Organisation, and others sympathetic to Iraq's cause.

By the time he had met Mr Baker for the first round of talks, Mr Bessmertnykh's tone had changed, but his statements reflect an ambiguity present in Soviet policy towards the Gulf confrontation from the start and betray the sharp divisions which exist in Moscow about Soviet support for the anti-Iraq alliance.

While Western leaders are facing demands for peace from thousands of mainly young protesters, the Soviet leadership finds its anti-war lobby in the upper echelons of the armed forces and the corridors of power.

Leading article, page 11
Letters, page 11



Parting company: James Baker with his Soviet counterpart, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, after their Washington talks

IRAQ UN chief is blamed for bombing raids

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

IRAQ dashed any lingering hopes yesterday that the United Nations secretary-general might somehow negotiate an end to the Gulf war by blaming him personally for the allied bombing campaign.

The Iraqi foreign minister, Tariq Aziz, told Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the secretary-general, in a letter read on Baghdad radio: "You personally bear the responsibility before history and humanity for these ugly crimes being committed against the free and struggling people of Iraq."

Baghdad began to criticise the UN Security Council from the moment it passed the first of 12 resolutions calling for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait.

But Iraq's leaders still agreed to talk to Señor Pérez de Cuellar, who helped to broker an end to the Iran-Iraq war, in the hope that he would agree to a peace package linking Iraq's invasion of Kuwait to the Israeli occupation of Arab lands. The veteran Peruvian diplomat made two trips to the Middle East in search of peace, and during a 2½-hour meeting in Baghdad on January 13 with President Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi leader twice asked him to continue to exercise his good offices.

With the outbreak of hostilities, Iraq has apparently abandoned any hope that the UN secretary-general might be able to negotiate a settlement it finds acceptable.

"It is truly a disgrace for the international organisation that such deliberate crimes are committed under the veil of security council resolutions," the Iraqi foreign minister's letter said. "Indiscriminate and deliberate raids" were being carried out "in the name of the United Nations on civilian, economic, humanitarian, health, educational and religious targets, and on the citizens and their homes throughout Iraq."

Mr Aziz claimed that the final resolution authorising the use of force was passed after the United States used "pressure, blackmail and bribery". He went on: "The facts about how member countries in the security council and officials from these countries pocketed these bribes are common knowledge."

He described the allied bombing raids as "irrefutable evidence that the governments of this alliance intend merely to take their revenge on the valiant Iraqi people and their struggling leadership as a

result of their confrontation of the imperialist objectives of these governments."

Meanwhile, Mehdi Karrubi, the Iranian parliamentary speaker, unveiled a five-point plan to end the Gulf war by calling for a simultaneous withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and American-led allied troops from the region. He suggested soldiers from Islamic countries should replace Iraqi troops in Kuwait and the multinational force in Saudi Arabia.

TURKEY

Ankara vows to retaliate if attacked, Ozal tells Iraqis

FROM BILL FROST IN INCIRLIK

THE war of words between Turkey and Iraq intensified yesterday, with President Ozal issuing his clearest warning that his country would retaliate if attacked.

The statement came as tension mounted after a series of bomb attacks by pro-Iraqi terrorists on American and allied targets across the country. The bombings, claimed by the left-wing group Dev Sol, were said to be in protest over the use of Turkish air bases by American war planes flying into Iraq.

Asked by German TV how he would react if there was an Iraqi missile strike against Turkey, President Ozal said: "Iraq should know that we will hit back if we are attacked. This is a basic principle." He emphasised that Turkey had no territorial ambitions on Iraq. Its goal in the conflict was "democratisation and an end to dictatorship in Iraq."

The expression of such open hostility would not go unnoticed in Baghdad, said one diplomat in Ankara yesterday. "This pushes us even closer to the prospect of widening this conflict," he said.

Late last week Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, issued a warning that Turkey "would be held fully responsible for her hostile actions in allowing US bombers to launch attacks against Iraq". Raids from the Incirlik base in the southeast continued unabated despite the Iraqi warning.

As relations continued to deteriorate yesterday, two bombs exploded in Ankara, the first at offices shared by the Saudi and Japanese national airlines, the

second outside a building used by Air France. On Saturday night, two bombs exploded in central Adana, a city near the Incirlik air base, damaging the American consulate and the American Turkish cultural centre. Dev Sol claimed responsibility for all the attacks.

Opinion in Turkey yesterday appeared more polarised than ever over President Ozal's stance. Erdal Inonu, leader of the main opposition party, said: "Mr Ozal's speeches are full of innuendo suggesting how eager he is to get Turkey into this war. He wants to open a second land front against

Iraq on our southern border. I am afraid he really wants us to be even more involved in this conflict than we are already. If demonstrations were not banned, I am sure the whole of Turkey would be marching against such military adventurism."

Mr Inonu said the president had misled Turkey by saying initially that he had no wish to become embroiled in war. "He says one thing to them and then allows the US to use Incirlik for raids against Iraq."

"I am all for stopping this contribution now. We have already done enough."

EGYPT

Cairo is not aiming at Saddam's overthrow

FROM MICHAEL KNIFE IN CAIRO

EGYPT made it clear yesterday that it is not seeking the overthrow of President Saddam Hussein and would be prepared to co-operate with him once Iraqi forces have left Kuwait. These assurances were given by Boutros Ghali, Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, at a press conference in Cairo.

They appeared to be a response to growing concern in the Arab world that the purpose of the multinational forces in the Gulf is to topple the Iraqi leader and destroy Iraq's military and economic infrastructure rather than

to stop at restoring Kuwait's legitimate government. But Mr Ghali rejected criticisms voiced internally and by other Arab states that allied bombing of Iraq exceeded the United Nations mandate to use force to end the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

"Our position is not in favour of the destruction of an Arab country, is not in favour of a change of government," said Mr Ghali.

Egypt's analysis of what had been done in terms of bombing was shared with the United Nations Security Council resolution 678 which authorised the use of force.

ISRAEL

War part of routine as schools open again

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

LIFE in Israel largely returned to normal yesterday, as authorities redefined the country's involvement in the war as an "emergency routine" and schools reopened.

This follows a Scud missile attack on Saturday evening which was foiled by Patriot anti-missile defences. Officials said the missile threat from western Iraq was expected to last "for another few weeks" and Israel reserved its right to launch a raid in co-ordination with the allies. The Israeli cabinet yesterday said restraint would continue, despite the objections of some hardliners. The *Jerusalem Post* spoke out against restraint.

Dore Gold, of the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, said Israel had agreed with America that there was a "red line" which if crossed would justify an end to restraint. It is widely assumed that Iraqi use of non-conventional weapons would constitute one such "red line". An unacceptably high level of civilian casualties might be another.

But Israeli officials appear confident that retaliation would not disrupt the coalition against Baghdad. Diplomats said President Saddam Hussein had achieved the opposite of what he had intended. Israel is already in an informal alliance with several Arab countries, which share its desire to remove the Iraqi military threat.

In Saturday's attack, the sixth salvo of missiles aimed at Israel, one Scud was launched at Tel Aviv and three at Haifa. All were destroyed by intercepting Patriots, but some damage was caused by falling debris, mainly to the homes of Haifa Arabs.

The Council of Arab Municipalities, representing Israeli Arab towns, yesterday offered the shelter of Arab homes to Jewish victims of Iraqi missile attacks. A spokesman for the Israeli Arabs, Omar Malik, said: "We express our sorrow over the missile attacks, and we offer humanitarian aid."

Secondary schools in Tel Aviv and elsewhere were reopened and attendance was said to be high. In Tel Aviv, officials said 500 buildings had been damaged by Iraqi attacks, and 35 would have to be demolished.

● BONN: The German government will take a "very quick" decision to send Patriot missiles to Israel if the Israeli government asks for them, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign minister, said in a radio interview yesterday.

MIDDLE EAST OBSERVER

Finding the clay feet of the Arabs' latest idol

UNTIL very recently, Muslim activists and Arab nationalists formed distinctly rival camps. Though, from a Western point of view, the nationalists are as reactionary as their Islamic counterparts, the former regarded the latter as the modern-day progeny of Neanderthal man, while the latter thought of the nationalists as the misled followers of Western ideologies seeking nationhood not in the "House of Islam", but in the smaller grouping of the speakers of Arabic.

But now, particularly since January 15, when President Saddam Hussein ignored the United Nations deadline to leave Kuwait, the two camps have found a new hero in him and, curiously, they put forth the same reason for backing him: he is standing up to the West, his personal character being unimportant.

One of the most eloquent of Saddam's new supporters is George Hawatmeh, the

urbane, Western-educated editor of Amman's English-language newspaper *The Jordan Times*. He believes, for example, that American and British accounts of the progress of the war were as exaggerated as Iraq's military statements, if not more so; that Saddam Hussein's crimes were no more serious than those of the average Third World dictator; that the invasion of Kuwait compared with that of Panama by the United States; that Saddam was "progressive, not corrupt like those decadent oil sheikhs who have \$60 or \$70 billion in Western banks and marry every Thursday."

On being told that, surely, a corrupt oil sheikh who married every Thursday was preferable to "progressive" presidents who gassed whole towns, Mr Hawatmeh replied he would not quarrel with my descriptions of the Iraqi leader, but it was Saddam's ideals that mattered, not what

he was. "He is the only Arab who is standing up to America and is serious about being equal to America," he said. "It is a question of national pride here in the Arab world. We feel tribally with Saddam Hussein."

The same argument was advanced by a spokesman in the Jordanian parliament for the Muslim Brotherhood, even though during the eight-year Iran-Iraq war one of the most frequently used descriptions of Saddam by Muslim activists everywhere was "the Zionist agent" because he fought the new Mecca of Islamic radicalism.

Some commentators say that Saddam now has the potential to become an eternal Arab hero, merely because he has survived a week of warfare with the West. The historical analogy provided is that of Nasser, but it is a false one. Nasser became an Arab hero because in 1956 he survived the Suez invasion to nationalise the canal.

In 1967 he lost the Six-Day War to Israel and is hardly idolised nowadays.

The same fate could lie in wait for Saddam. If he survives as the ruler of Iraq, he could remain a hero because he inflicted such a heavy cost on the West.

If he is crushed to make way for a democratic Iraq firmly aligned with the West, he will be abandoned even by the terrorist organisations now gathered in Baghdad. He would become yet another Arab hero who raised hopes only to dissipate them.

A little Western media attention to the valour now shown by Saudi and Kuwaiti pilots in the war against Saddam would show that the fight is not one between the West and the Arabs. That would help to prevent more Arabs from "feeling tribally with Saddam."

Hazhir Teimourian

LABOUR POLICY

'Topple Saddam' suggestions create tensions in party

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour leadership reacted angrily last night to suggestions that Neil Kinnock was prepared to widen the aims of the Gulf war to include the toppling of Saddam Hussein as leader of the Iraqi people.

The tensions within the party surfaced again as John Prescott, the shadow transport secretary, Denis Healey, the former cabinet minister, and other front benchers said publicly that the objectives of the war should be restricted to removing the Iraqis from Kuwait.

Mr Kinnock has made it plain from the outset that he is backing United Nations policy in calling for the removal of President Saddam and the ending of his superpower status in the region, granted by his nuclear and chemical

weapon-making potential. He has repeatedly said that President Saddam's position as leader of the Iraqi people is a matter for them to decide, and not the alliance.

Shadow cabinet sources voiced irritation at suggestions from front benchers that Mr Kinnock was going beyond the aims of the UN resolutions.

The leadership's stand is based on the resolutions, which call for the unconditional removal of Saddam from Kuwait and the restoration of peace and security in the region. They argue that that a Middle East peace conference, which Labour supports, would not be possible if President Saddam were allowed to retain his military might.

Mr Prescott said yesterday on BBC Radio 4's *The World This Week* that his interpretation of the resolutions was that they called for the ejection of President Saddam from Kuwait. He said that he countered the arguments of those who said they should get into the long, bloody process of pursuing peace aims in the name of war, which would be costly in lives and add to instability in the region.

However, shadow cabinet sources suggested that Mr Prescott was putting up an "Aunt Sally" to give himself the opportunity of knocking it down. They denied that Mr Kinnock had any intention of

going beyond the UN resolutions and said suggestions to the contrary were mischievous.

Mr Healey said yesterday: "Once we have Iraqi troops out of Kuwait, we should talk to whoever is there." He told BBC TV's *On The Record* that he could not believe the damage done to President Saddam's pride and his armed forces would allow him to survive. Like John Major, he said, he would not shed a tear if the Iraqi leader was "knocked off".

He added, however: "We cannot make that a war aim. As soon as we have the Iraqis out of Kuwait we should say: 'We are prepared to talk to you about a peace structure'."

Speaking on the same programme, Clare Short, a Labour front bench spokeswoman: "The test for the Labour party will be to back the first initiative that would be a serious initiative to end the war when the government is not backing it." She was concerned at the pressure on Mr Kinnock to take the alliance war aims further than removing Iraq from Kuwait.

Joan Ruddock, another front bench spokeswoman, said: "Sometimes there are natural pauses. That may emerge in the change from an air battle to a ground battle, which would be most appropriate to find a form of negotiation which would make it possible to end the carnage."

Detainees' jail move criticised

The decision to move Iraqi detainees hundreds of miles to a Yorkshire prison was yesterday attacked as insensitive by relatives and friends of those held. Most families are living in the South-East and will be unable to travel regularly to see their loved ones, a spokesman said.

More than 70 Iraqi and Palestinian men detained because of fears that they might pose a security risk will be moved to the maximum security Full Sutton Prison today. Protests from relatives and the Red Cross about conditions inside Pentonville prison in north London led to the move, the Home Office said.

The Home Office today announced the release of a second detainee, an unidentified Iraqi, on the orders of Kenneth Baker, the home secretary. The first, a Palestinian, was released from detention on Friday.

Arms seized

Kuala Lumpur — The Malaysian navy arrested 46 Vietnamese and seized 11 automatic weapons from four trawlers last month, a senior naval officer said in an interview. The arrests were made on December 20 in the Malaysian exclusive economic zone, where fishermen off the northeastern state of Terengganu had complained of harassment by foreign boats, Commodore Ahmad Ramli Muhammad said. (Reuters)

Royal prayers

The Queen prayed for prisoners of war being held by the Iraqis yesterday. Six members of the royal family joined estate workers at the parish church at Sandringham where prayers were also said for servicemen in action and their families. Over 200 well-wishers turned out to see the Queen who is to meet the wives and relatives of missing air crews at RAF Marham, Norfolk, on Wednesday.

Newsman's rest

John Simpson the BBC foreign correspondent, who spent two days in a Jordanian hospital with a kidney complaint last week after being expelled from Baghdad, will return to Britain tomorrow. The BBC said yesterday that he would fly back to the Gulf after a short rest.

MEDIA

BBC denies censorship claim

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC has denied suggestions that it bowed to political pressure by cancelling the broadcast today of a *Panorama* programme exploring British arms exports to Iraq before the invasion of Kuwait.

The programme, the third in a series investigating the Iraqi "super-gun" and examining the role played by the role of the industry department in exporting supergun parts to Iraq, was dropped last Friday by senior BBC managers who felt its transmission at this stage of the war would be "inappropriate".

The airing of the *Panorama* edition, which is understood to suggest that some part of the supergun project is now operational, would have been sure to cause the government embarrassment at such a sensitive time.

But a BBC spokesman denied that the decision to drop the programme had come as a result of political pressure, insisting: "This is purely an editorial judgment. The BBC in the past has embarrassed the government. The programme will go out at some stage, but this is not the appropriate time. There are more pertinent issues for the programme to discuss. *Panorama* should be covering issues relating directly to the Gulf war."

Panorama staff were told last Friday to produce a replacement programme about how the United States will tackle a ground war. Today's edition will also include a film about how Israelis have been coping with Scud attacks.

Senior news and current affairs management, including

John Birt, the deputy director-general, decided to postpone the programme days after it had been cleared for transmission. Tony Hall, director of news and current affairs, and Samir Shah, *Panorama* editor, had given it the green light after Ministry of Defence war reporting restrictions suggested the programme did not contravene the rules.

A record 20.1 million people tuned in to TV-am, the ITV breakfast contractor, in the week war broke out in the Gulf. This compares with 15.1 million in the previous week, as well as TV-am's previous record of 18.6 million. Between Monday January 14 and Friday January 18, 16.2 million watched TV-am compared with 15.6 million for BBC *Breakfast News* and 4 million for Channel 4 *Daily*.

Tragedy and redemption, by Runcie

ROBERT RUNCIE, the Archbishop of Canterbury, spoke yesterday of the "sadness" of the Gulf war. He said in his last official sermon at Canterbury cathedral before retiring on Thursday: "There are profound reasons why there is sadness around today; the war in the Gulf, the setback to a new order in Europe, famine and civil war in Africa."

He added: "But, however necessary the war in the Gulf... we must never lose sight of the goodness of God and the promise of Christ that there is no tragedy that cannot be redeemed."

Dr Runcie will be succeeded by Dr George Carey, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and will make his last public appearances as archbishop at the Church of England General Synod between Tuesday and Thursday.

Dr John Habgood, the Archbishop of York, said in a BBC Radio 4 sermon relayed to troops in the Gulf that the decision to go to war was right. He urged Britons not to fall into the trap of imagining it was a war between Islam and Christianity, and not to fall prey to "gung-ho belligerence".

He added: "No matter how right and inevitable the political decision to go to war, and I believe it was right, there is something in the Christian conscience which revolts against the whole idea."

Dr Billy Graham, the American evangelist, said yesterday that he was disturbed that all conditions for a just war had not been fulfilled in the Gulf conflict.

Dr Graham, interviewed on Radio 4's *Sunday* programme, agreed that it was "quite valid" to say that all peaceful means had not been exhausted and that the consequences of war could be worse than if war had not broken out.



Canterbury exit: Dr Robert Runcie and his wife Rosalind after his last official sermon

British Muslims 'Mosques' new leader shrugs off rift claim

THE new leader of the Bradford Council for Mosques yesterday shrugged off suggestions of a rift over policy on the Gulf. Liaqat Hussain declared that the council's attitude to the Gulf war and the Salman Rushdie controversy would be unaltered.

Mr Hussain, aged 39, was yesterday unanimously elected president of the council, which represents 75,000 Muslims in Bradford, scene of the first public burning of Mr Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses* and two weeks ago the venue for a national summit of Muslims that condemned the allied action in the Gulf. All 48 council members present — over 50 per cent of the electorate — voted for Mr Hussain, previously general secretary.

Mr Hussain said that some people had nominated the previous president, Sher Azam, but that under the constitution he had been ineligible to stand again. Mr Azam, widely seen as a moderate, had been president for an extended three-year period because of the Rushdie issue.

Mr Hussain said: "We have been working as a team and Sher Azam's views were that of his colleagues. His expressed views were not personal, but those of the Council for Mosques. There is not going to be any change of views."

Mr Hussain said: "We are gradually getting the message through that we are a British people. We must be seen as a British voice, not a voice from outside the country."

Poll tax letter tracks target

A poll tax demand has been delivered to a British serviceman while on duty in chemical warfare kit in a trench near the Iraq-Kuwait border. It was forwarded to Private Mark Patchett, aged 20, from the School of Military Survey at Hermitage, near Newbury, Berkshire, where he had been based with a detachment of Royal Engineers. Private Patchett wrote to a friend: "Don't they ever give up?" Newbury district council said the demand was sent to the school in error.



Prescott: war aim must be to get Iraqis out of Kuwait

PAY AWARDS

Cabinet dilemma over proposed 9%

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PROPOSED pay rises for the armed forces and other public servants averaging about 9 per cent are expected to go before the cabinet this week, presenting an acute dilemma for ministers because of the Gulf war.

Review body reports on the pay of 1.4 million public servants, including nurses, teachers, doctors and servicemen, are believed to recommend increases some way above the 7 per cent proposed by ministers as the average level in the coming year. Although the figures proposed for the different groups vary, the average is about 9 per cent, Whitehall sources say.

Senior ministers believe that the reports present two-fold difficulties for the government. Although the increasing cost of the war is placing heavier pressures on public spending, ministers will be reluctant to be seen to restrict independently recommended pay increases to British servicemen fighting in the Gulf.

The government's unease is intensified by predictions that

public sector earnings in the next financial year will rise by at least 2 percentage points more than the private sector. A study by the Public Finance Foundation forecast that public sector pay would rise by 3.5 per cent in real terms in 1991-2 although the prediction was based on estimates of lower increases for nurses, armed forces and doctors than are understood to be proposed in the reports presented to Downing Street last week.

Those covered by the review bodies are servicemen, nurses, midwives and health visitors, doctors and dentists, paramedical professions and those on top salaries, including senior officers in the armed forces and judges.

Ministers will consider the option, exercised in previous years, of staging the awards in order to keep down total costs during 1991-2. The recommendations will be considered against the background of repeated warnings by ministers that high pay rises will mean higher unemployment as the economy runs deeper into recession.

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TIME

Major's election helps to halve Labour lead in polls

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

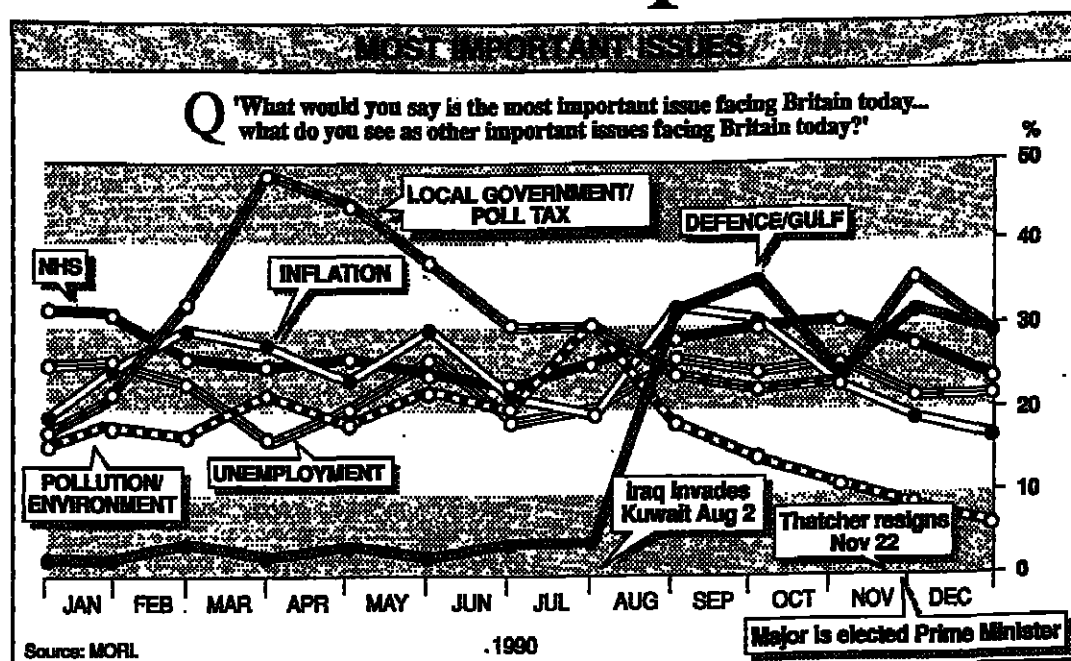
LABOUR'S lead over the Conservatives was halved over the last quarter, falling from 12 to 6 percentage points, according to an aggregate analysis of Mori polls covering nearly 8,000 people over the past three months.

The figures show that the election of John Major as party leader gave the Tories a big boost in public support, even before the Gulf conflict, which confirmed his appeal to the "common man" with a significant rise in Tory backing among the C1 lower middle classes.

The aggregate analysis, covering 7,952 adults interviewed between October and December 1990, measured party support nationally at Labour (45 per cent), Conservative (39 per cent), Liberal Democratic (11 per cent), Green party (2 per cent) and others (3 per cent). Labour was 3 points down on the previous quarter and the Conservatives 3 points up.

Since the election of Mr Major happened two-thirds of the way through the survey period, the degree of Conservative recovery was clearly understated. That was confirmed by yesterday's end of January Mori poll in *The Sunday Times*, which showed the Tories with a 5-point lead over Labour, with Conservatives (46 per cent), Labour (41 per cent), Liberal Democrats (9 per cent), Greens (2 per cent) and others (2 per cent).

In the last quarter a year ago, the standing of the parties in the aggregate poll was: Labour (48 per cent), Conservatives (40 per cent), Liberal Democrats (4 per cent),



SDP (2 per cent) and Greens (2 per cent). The latest standing compares with figures at the last general election of Conservatives (43 per cent), Labour (32 per cent) and Liberal/SDP Alliance (23 per cent).

In the fourth quarter of 1990, the Conservatives gained and Labour lost support in every age, class and regional grouping except the 25-34 age group, which contains many first-time home buyers, where there was no change.

The Conservative recovery has been particularly marked in the Midlands, where Tory support is up 5 points. Labour support down 4, more than halving Labour's lead. The Conservatives have regained a lead in the 55-plus age

group and extended their previously small lead among owner-occupiers.

Taking the monthly figures separately, in November, with Margaret Thatcher as leader, Labour led the Conservatives 46:38 in popular support among those expressing a voting intention. In December, with Mr Major in Downing Street, the margin was halved to 4 points, Labour leading 45:41. In November, nearly three-quarters of the country was dissatisfied with Mrs Thatcher's running of the country, earning her a net minus rating of 46 points. Mr Major, by contrast, had a net plus rating of 15 points in December, with 37 per cent satisfied with his running of the country and

only 22 per cent dissatisfied. Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour party, saw satisfaction with his performance decline from a net plus of 3 points in October to minus 14 last month.

Economic optimism altered little through the quarter but, at minus 30 in January, may be dampening the increase in Tory support due to the Gulf.

Concern over environmental issues is down to one-third of what it was a year ago. Defence and the poll tax shared first place as issues of concern in December. However, in January, as yesterday's *Sunday Times* Mori poll showed, defence was a clear leader at 54 per cent, the first time since Mori began polling that any single issue,

Q: Do you think that the general economic condition of the country will improve, stay the same, or get worse over the next 12 months?

	Improve	Same	Worse	Net Improve
Oct 1990	24	22	45	-21
Nov 1990	23	21	47	-24
Dec 1990*	25	24	45	-20

*After John Major elected Prime Minister

Q: How would you vote if there was a general election tomorrow? (if undecided or refused)

	Con	Lab	LibDem	Gm	Oth	C lead
Oct 1990	33	49	14	2	2	-16
Nov 1990	38	48	12	2	2	-8
Dec 1990*	41	45	9	2	3	-4

Q: Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way...

- The Government is running the country?
- Mrs Thatcher is doing her job as Prime Minister?
- Mr Kinnock is doing his job as leader of the Labour Party?
- Mr Ashdown is doing his job as leader of the Democrats?

	Govt	Thatcher/Major	Kinnock	Ashdown
	Sat	Dis	Sat	Dis
Oct 1990	22	70	29	66
Nov 1990	22	73	25	71
Dec 1990*	31	62	37	22

other than unemployment, has exceeded 50 per cent.

Splitting the surveys conducted before Mrs Thatcher stepped down from those carried out after Mr Major took over in Downing Street, the difference in voting intentions under the two leaders was considerable: a Labour lead of 10 points in the Thatcher period

was converted to level pegging under Mr Major.

Mr Major, aged 46, is shown to have a strong appeal to women, with the Tories 13 points better off among women under his leadership. The ascension of Mr Major has gained his party 21 points in support among the 25-34 age group, 11 points among the 18 to

24-year-olds and 8 points in the older age groups, except for the over-65s.

The election of Mr Major has won an extra 13 points of Tory support among mortgage holders and 10 among owner-occupiers.

Perhaps most significantly in class terms, Mr Major, once a bank official and a man who has advertised his intention of building a classless society, gives his party the biggest boost among the C1 lower middle classes, with a 14-point increase. Comparing the October/November figures under Mrs Thatcher to the January figures under Mr Major, the boost to Tory support among the C1s increases to 26 points.

In the regions, however, the Tories might have done better to have chosen Michael Heseltine as their new leader. Polling evidence during the leadership contest showed he had the strongest appeal in the Midlands and the North of any of the contenders.

Mr Major's arrival has seen only a 3 point improvement in Tory support in the North and Scotland. That compares with 10 in the Midlands and 23 in the South.

Taking voting trends since the 1987 General Election, which the aggregate polls can do on samples of 23,396 for 1987, 33,155 for 1988, 29,286 for 1989 and 27,856 for 1990, the Tories averaged only 36 per cent support in 1990 compared to the 43 per cent they had in 1987, while Labour was up from 32 per cent to 43 per cent.

Mori interviewed 7,592 adults face-to-face in homes throughout Britain from October to December. Data was weighted to reflect the profile of the population.

Poll tax rebels may be denied hearing before enforcement

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Heseltine, the environment secretary, is considering a plan to withdraw the right of poll tax defaulters to a court hearing before enforcement action is taken against them.

In an attempt to tackle high levels of non-payment, which threaten to push poll tax bills above £400 from April, local authorities may be given the right to make legal liability orders, which at present only courts can issue. Under a plan drawn up by civil servants, defaulters would lose the right to a court hearing but would have the right to appeal to magistrates against the making of a liability order, the first step to sending in bailiffs.

Before their appeal could be heard, however, they would have

to prove that the council had failed to follow the correct procedures. The plan was condemned yesterday by David Blunkett, Labour's local government spokesman, who accused ministers of being prepared to sacrifice civil liberties to save the poll tax.

The proposal, which has been discussed with the local authority associations, comes after pressure from the Magistrates' Association, which has argued that because of the way in which the poll tax legislation is drawn, courts have little option but to grant liability orders in most cases.

The association called for poll tax cases to be transferred to a new administrative tribunal, arguing that there was no judicial function for magistrates to perform in such

cases. Under the present law a liability order is issued automatically if a council can prove an individual is a resident in its area and has not paid community charge.

The proposal to give councils powers to issue liability orders would require fresh legislation and some local authorities have expressed reservations about becoming judge and jury in their own cause. They are likely, however, to accept a modified form of the scheme to speed up collection of the poll tax.

In parts of London, half those on the poll tax register have still paid nothing and across the country as much as a third of the total sum due remains outstanding with only two months of the financial year left to run.

The government is also courting controversy with a Home Office proposal to increase dramatically charges magistrates courts make for handling poll tax cases.

Proposals submitted to the environment department by the Home Office suggest raising the cost of issuing a summons from the present 10p to £3.80. The cost of obtaining a liability order against a defaulter would rise from 10p to £11 and the charge for committing a defaulter to prison would rise from 50p to £60.

The Home Office document says that court fees have remained unaltered, apart from decriminalisation, for 60 years and it is time to reflect the costs to the courts of acting as debt collectors for local authorities. Local authorities have yet to be told formally about the increases which are expected to take effect from April 1, by which time all councils will have set their budgets.

A senior local government source said yesterday that councils would have no option but to pass the costs on to defaulters, which would lead to those on very low incomes suffering the most. One council treasurer estimated that the revised fees would add £1.4 million to the cost of collecting poll tax arrears in his area alone.



Show stoppers: a double cape in yellow and pink cotton brocade over a chocolate cotton strapless dress from the Christian Lacroix haute couture collection, and a plunging-necked top with jewelled short skirt from the Gianni Versace Atelier show

Hard times for high fashion

By LIZ SMITH, FASHION EDITOR

THE great haute couture houses of Paris unveil their new collections this week determined that the show must go on. Only a handful of American retailers and journalists have braved the transatlantic trip for a week of high fashion.

If the private clients are in town they will place their orders later, since most of them do not want to appear conspicuous because of terrorist fears. Those who have arrived are greeted as heroes, and rewarded with traffic-free streets and uncrowded restaurants. Most of the week's celebratory parties have been cancelled, but just as many private dinners are being held in their place. The shows go

on as scheduled, but all have extra security checks.

The embattled mood is not simply because of the Gulf conflict. In a worldwide recession, the luxury goods market is under threat. It is a business that depends as much on image as sales strategy. Haute couture is its powerhouse, generating a veneer of chic on which everything from scent to sardines can be sold as long as it carries a designer name.

The difference in mood is as palpable on the catwalk as off, with many designers deliberately toning down their extravagant displays.

It takes more than a recession, though, to dampen the bravura

style of the Milanese designer Gianni Versace. He staged his atelier collection at the Ritz hotel on Saturday night. The solid, bright colours of the opening numbers showed off the cut and seaming of the Versace's tiny shift dresses, asymmetrically draped and layered over diagonally slashed skirts or left open at the sides to reveal a bandeau top.

Christian Lacroix is in more monochromatic mood. The designer whose signature style has been a clash of colour and pattern showed no prints but still manages to make black and navy, grey and coco brown look sumptuous. His swathed necklines are as flamboyant as ever.

Slump in car sales expected to worsen

By KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

CAR sales are set to slump further this year as Britain's biggest manufacturing industry underlines the depth of the recession affecting high street sales.

Motor manufacturers and industry analysts are revising sales estimates for the year substantially downwards after a poor start in January and with the prospect of a protracted Gulf war shaking business confidence.

Salomon Brothers, the UK equity research group, is warning investors that early predictions of a market of 1.9 million new cars this year should be changed to 1.76 million, about 12 per cent lower than last year's sales, which were 1.77 per cent down on 1989.

The forecast comes on top of new car sales figures for the first 20 days of January which show few signs that the industry can pull out of its slump in the first few months of the year.

The market fell by 27,506 cars, going 26.3 per cent below the sales recorded in the first 20 days of January last year. Although those figures could change significantly by the end of the month, they indicate the malaise in the industry.

January is traditionally an optimistic month, with buyers taking advantage of increased resale values arising from registering a car in the new year. Early figures show, however, that companies such as Nissan, Fiat and Renault are all down.

Ford, Britain's biggest car company, again shows the biggest falls and has lost market share to rivals. The company saw last year's market share of more than 25 per cent cut to 21.7 per cent. Vauxhall and Rover, however, both increased their share with Vauxhall up to 18.8 per cent and Rover up to 17.14 per cent.

Salomon Brothers expects profits to be cut among manufacturers and among component makers, who face a difficult year. Salomon predicts that corporate earnings in the motor sector will fall 16 per cent when profit figures are disclosed in March and April.

Those company figures are likely to include substantial cuts in profits for Ford, and the company's Jaguar subsidiary is unlikely to get into the black.

Labour plan to kill off county councils

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour party will shortly disclose plans for an overhaul of local government, including the abolition of county councils and their replacement by strengthened district authorities charged with bringing services closer to the consumer.

Existing services run by the counties, including education and social services, would be transferred to the districts. Labour is trying to soften the blow for the counties by making it plain that many of the enlarged "most purpose" district councils could be formed by merging smaller districts and administered on some of the existing county boundaries. County council headquarters could, in some cases, house the new authorities.

At the same time, Labour leaders are completing plans for the phased introduction of a new tier of regional government in England. Up to ten assemblies with strategic powers would enable a Labour government to promote strong management of the regional economies.

The local government package, which includes details of Labour's plan to replace the poll tax with a fairer and modernised version of the rating system, and proposals to make local government more accountable through the annual election of councillors, is to be published in the form of a white paper. It will be timed to pre-empt the review by the environment secretary, Michael Heseltine, of local finance and structure, an outline of which is expected before the May local elections.

The plans have been drawn up by a working party of shadow cabinet and national executive committee members chaired by Bryan Gould, the shadow environment secretary. They are contained in a document entitled *Devolution and Democracy*, to go this week before the policy review group headed by Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, which has overseen the development of the party's proposed changes to the constitution.

The disclosure of Labour's intentions for local government



Hattersley: heads group to be shown document

Ministers consider boosts for private rented housing

By OUR CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TAX concessions are being considered by ministers as a means of giving a boost to the provision of private rented housing.

Ways of increasing the amount of private rented housing available are being urgently studied at the request of John Major, the prime minister, with the aim of including radical proposals in the next Conservative election manifesto.

Sir George Young, the recently appointed housing and planning minister, is considering whether new tax breaks could persuade landlords or potential landlords to invest more, and make renting more worthwhile for the tenants themselves.

Sir George is considering whether changes that the government has already introduced to the business expansion scheme could be extended. Under those

provisions, tax relief is given on investment in newly-built rented property, which then has to be let for five years under assured tenancies.

Some £500 million, representing about 10,000 homes, has been invested in the past two years. In an effort to stimulate the private rented sector, the government has also changed the rent laws to allow landlords to move to market rents, but ministers believe that more needs to be done to encourage investment.

Private landlords, according to ministers, are nervous about investment, fearing that a future Labour government might change the law. Labour spokesmen, however, have made it clear that they would co-operate with the government in confidence-building, provided that there were a better appeal system for dealing with excessive rents.

London badly hit by recession

By TIM JONES, EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

LONDON is bearing the brunt of the economic recession, with thousands of jobs being lost, investment cut and export and domestic orders down, according to a report published today.

Almost eight in ten firms say that a cut in interest rates is essential to economic revival. The report, by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, says the results are the worst ever recorded since its surveys began 13 years ago. Over the past quarter, unemployment in the capital grew at a rate of 14.7 per cent, twice the rate of the previous quarter, and well ahead of the national average of 8.4 per cent.

Three hundred companies, employing 250,000 key occupational workers in the capital and ranging from the construction industry to the legal profession, said they had shed 2,115 jobs in 1990 and expected the trend to

continue, Jacqui Ginnane, the chamber's chief economist, said: "This shows that London is continuing to bear the brunt of current government policy."

In the service industries sector, which includes banking, insurance, consultancy, management consultancy and the legal profession, one third of all firms said they had reduced their workforce over the past three months. The chamber says that prospects for the financial sector are particularly pessimistic.

The manufacturing sector, which accounts for 11 per cent of employment in London, is facing the worst problems. Only one quarter of firms are working to full capacity and 50 per cent report a drop in domestic orders and deliveries.

Companies are achieving corporate cost savings in the face of profits squeezed by a continual scaling back of investment

planned for this year, the report says. Ms Ginnane said: "This has serious implications for long-term growth. If firms are not investing now they will face badly against European competitors."

As well as calling on the government to lower interest rates, almost half the firms surveyed in the manufacturing sector said the sterling exchange rate should be reduced to boost export activity. The report says that, because of a high interest rate policy, there is no indication that domestic demand will increase.

"In addition, uncertainties created by the Gulf crisis make the export markets even more unpredictable," it says. "The declining fortunes of firms in both the manufacturing and service sectors has heightened the demand for a business rates and raised calls for greater fiscal incentives in the next budget to assist firms."

in polls

Rich nations urged to aim for green economic growth

THE world's rich countries will have to change their economies profoundly if they are to cope with the environmental challenges now facing them, according to a survey by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

It says that ensuring that economic decision-making encompasses environmental policy at every level is the only means of continuing growth in a "sustainable" way — a way that provides for the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The survey, of the environmental costs of economic growth in the organisation's 24 member states, including Britain, presents a detailed picture of progress being overwhelmed by poor air, water and soil quality, and by damage to the seas, vulnerable landscapes, and wildlife, throughout Europe, North America, Australasia and Japan.

Most significantly, the report questions the idea of economic growth itself, the most sacred tenet of post-war capitalist philosophy.

The report, called *The State of the Environment*, eschews the doom-laden rhetoric now common to pronouncements on the health of the planet, providing instead, in 300 pages of neutral statistics, charts, and unemotional analysis, the most comprehensive picture assembled of the environment and its problems in OECD member countries. Those countries have 715 million inhabitants, representing 16 per cent of the world's population, yet account for 72 per cent of world gross

Economic growth, the most sacred article of post-war capitalism, has been challenged by a body set up to promote it, says Michael McCarthy

product, 76 per cent of world trade and 50 per cent of global energy use. The report will be discussed later this week by all 24 OECD environment ministers at a meeting in Paris.

Although the language is sober, environmental gains are highlighted, and the link between success and failure is left undrawn, the prevailing negative trends build up a depressing picture of pollution, waste, and dwindling natural resources.

The report makes clear that environmental problems facing OECD countries far outweigh the successes achieved over the past two decades. The achievements include the virtual elimination of disease-contaminated drinking water, an increase in the area of protected land such as national parks and wildlife habitats, and better collection, disposal, and recycling of municipal waste. The waste produced, however, is increasing, not just in sheer quantity but the amount produced per person. Municipal waste per capita increased by 26 per cent from 1975 to 1988.

Previously well-established pollution, such as sulphur dioxide

emissions, has reduced as the traditional smokestack industries that produced them have disappeared. But new products are appearing, often untested, which are likely to build up in the environment over the coming years. Transport problems are highlighted, particularly the remorseless growth in the number of motor vehicles, which is largely responsible for the increase throughout the OECD countries of air pollution by oxides of nitrogen. Those gases counter-balance the reduction in sulphur dioxide, contributing to acid rain and photochemical smog.

It is not just the rich world ruining itself ecologically, however, that gives *The State of the Environment* its significance. The questioning of the philosophy of economic growth by the very organisation formed by the industrialised world to promote it will send shockwaves through international industry and business, astonish and delight environmentalists, and probably become a benchmark of economic thinking.

Making explicit the connection between delivery and environmental degradation, the report says: "The inhabitants of the OECD countries will continue to place a major strain on the world's resources and on the state of the environment through increased consumption and their use and disposal of final products. Consequently, a critical issue is how to prevent the general increase in incomes from being transformed into environmentally harmful consumption patterns."

Coming from a world-renowned think-tank that has spent three decades single-mindedly assisting the rich countries to push up their gross domestic product, and chiding them when they fail, this is revolutionary language, and some of the policies proposed are, for the OECD, no less revolutionary. The report bluntly suggests that halting the growth in the number of motor vehicles is essential to cope with the rapidly increasing pollution they cause, and it forges an end to the unlimited growth of tourism, particularly in Mediterranean countries.

It goes on to demystify the status of growth as the post-war economic goal by publishing its own survey of public opinion, showing that growth would now be given direct priority over environmental protection by only 19 per cent of respondents in the USA, 8 per cent in Japan, 7 per cent in the European Community, 6 per cent in Finland and 1 per cent in Norway.

The Status of the Environment stops short of renouncing the idea of economic growth itself. Instead, it takes as its central message the idea of sustainable or "green" growth, which first sprang to prominence with the 1987 report, *Our Common Future*, of the UN's World Commission on Environment and Development, chaired by Gro Harlem Brundtland, the prime minister of Norway. The OECD shares the view of the Brundtland report that this can only be achieved by the integration of environmental concerns into economic policy-making and it insists that that means real changes in the structure of its member states' economies.

Business strategies should all incorporate environmental considerations, in research, investment, the choice of products and raw materials, and siting policies. Transport policy should aim for a slowing in demand for motor vehicles, the hunt for quiet, clean and energy-efficient engines, and a move towards greater use of public transport. Energy policy will have to concern itself not only with traditional pollution, but with the increasing threat of climate change from greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide from coal-fired power stations, and will need to embrace energy-efficiency to do so. Agriculture will need to continue its adoption of more environmentally conscious practices.

Leading article, page 11



Out to grass: Jock, a Clydesdale, and Allan Fleming, Aberdeen's head horseman, who are shortly to retire, at work in one of the city's parks. The district council reintroduced horses during the 1980s to carry out deliveries and park maintenance work (Kerry Gill writes). The six Clydesdales transport stores, including fertilisers, cement, fencing and plants, and are used for clearing leaves

and rubbish. Mr Fleming said horses were often more economical and efficient than motor vehicles. "We use the horses for a lot of work in the parks. They are much handier. We don't have to keep jumping in and out of lorry cabs. The horses go exactly where you tell them and it means there is less pollution from exhaust fumes," said Mr Fleming, who has six Clydesdales under his control.

Synod may decide to review freehold of church posts

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

ROBERT RUNCIE's last General Synod meeting, which begins tomorrow, may move towards one of the most radical changes to the Church of England for decades.

A motion from the Southwark diocese seeks a review of freehold tenure of ecclesiastical offices. If passed, it will not commit the synod to abolishing the freehold.

The synod is also expected to set the seal on a commitment by the Church of England and the evangelical churches of Germany to move towards unity.

The Meissen Declaration, an agreement between the Church of England and the German evangelical churches, is close to the heart of Dr Runcie, who will tomorrow ask the synod to approve it as an "Act of Synod". According to Dr George Carey, Archbishop-elect of

Canterbury, the declaration will have most impact on the Church of England as a charter for partnerships at every level.

Dr Runcie sowed the seeds for the declaration, a response to the recent changes on the Continent, when he visited East and West Germany in 1983 for celebrations of the 500th anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther.

Discussion between the Church of England and the evangelical churches in the East and West led to the Meissen common statement, received by the synod in November 1988.

In an introduction to a House of Bishops report, Dr Carey, chairman of the Faith and Order Advisory Group, says that the declaration is "a further stage in what is already the Church of England's

closest practical relationship with a major continental church."

"Forms of joint oversight being considered include visits by delegations and joint participation in meetings of bishops," he says.

"The Meissen declaration is likely to have most impact on the life of the Church of England at large as a charter for partnerships at every level of church life and between theological colleges and specialist ministries, and for exchanges of ministers, church workers and students," Dr Carey says.

Sponsoring bodies, ensuring that relationships remain lively, will be an important experiment in joint oversight, he says, adding: "Their task will be to ensure that the Meissen Declaration does not simply stand as a milestone on the ecumenical journey, but actually enables the Church of England to grow towards full, visible unity with the churches of Germany."

The two-day synod, which ends on Thursday, Dr Runcie's last day as Archbishop of Canterbury, will also debate penal policy and the episcopal ministry.

A meeting at Lincoln cathedral will try today to resolve the dispute between the dean and four residential canons over the cathedral's loss-making Magna Carta exhibition in Australia (Arthur Leathley writes). The cathedral's general chapter will hear accounts from the dean and his canons on the 1988 exhibition of Lincoln's Magna Carta copy, which was held to raise funds but which cost the cathedral £56,000.

Since the Very Rev Brandon Jackson became dean, there has been a dispute between him and the four canons over the affair, and today's meeting between the dean and the canons, which will take place before about 35 non-residential canons, will be told of developments since a general chapter meeting in November.



Fatal crash: three people died when a Ford Sierra being followed by police collided with a Volvo on a slip road joining the M6 near Preston, Lancashire. Two women in the Volvo and a young man in the Sierra were killed. A man in the Volvo was taken to hospital with serious injuries. The crash happened late on Saturday after a patrol car spotted the Sierra, which was thought to have been stolen

Protection for smaller Channel 3 franchises

TELEVISION companies are to be banned from bidding for two new Channel Three licences in adjoining areas, which would give them too large a slice of regional television, under a plan to be announced by Kenneth Baker, the home secretary.

The companies, will, however, be allowed to acquire adjacent franchises after the government's moratorium on takeovers expires at the end of 1993, a year after the new Channel Three licences come into force. Mr Baker is expected to make a statement to the Commons later this week.

The first suggestion of the two stage approach was made by Lord Dailly, the Scottish representative on the new Independent Television Commission. The proposal should prevent smaller companies, such as Grampian in Scotland, being bowled out of the way if there is an initial rush of bidders.

If the smaller companies do have to face takeovers after the moratorium, they will at least be negotiating from a much stronger position.

Krays film named best of the year

The Krays, the film based on the exploits of the East End gangster last night won top prize in the Evening Standard Film Awards. It was named the best film of the year and its screenwriter, Phil Ridley, as the most promising newcomer in a ceremony at the Savoy hotel, London.

Jeremy Thomas, the producer of *The Last Emperor*, which won nine Oscars in 1988, received special award. Other awards: best screen play, Michael Eaton, *Low Travellers*; Peter Sellers award for comedy, Robbie Coltrane; best technical achievement, David Watkin, *Memphis Belle*; best actress, Natasha Richardson, *71*; *Comfort of Strangers*, *The Ham*; *maid's Tale*; best actor, Iain Glen; *Mountains of the Moon*, *Fools of Fortune*, *Silent Screen*.

Asian policeman seeks damages

An Asian police officer who was hit by a car while on duty is seeking damages from the industrial tribunal today. Surinder Singh, 34, a Nottingham police constable, made legal history in October when he won a claim for racial discrimination against the force, as the first black officer to sue a police employer.

Nurse prescribing

Community nurses should be allowed to prescribe minor drugs and medical products, five cc summer groups have told Willis Walgrave, the health secretary. The groups, including the Association of Community Health Nurses, the Patients' Association and Shelter, have asked Walgrave to provide a parliamentary time for a bill that will be introduced by Dudley Fishburn, Conservative MP for Kensington, on Wednesday.

Barn deaths charged

A man aged 19 was charged yesterday with manslaughter after the remains of two girls were found in a burnt-out barn at Uckington near Cheltenham. Police are refusing to name the victims until formal identification. Two men aged 18 are to appear before Cheltenham magistrates this morning charged with conspiring to pervert the course of justice.

Emery survives

Sir Peter Emery, Conservative MP for Houniton and one of Michael Heseltine's supporters in the party's leadership contest, has survived a constituency move in a landslide. At a despatch meeting he received 58 per cent of the votes — 470 to 310.

Bond winners

Winners of this week's major premium bond prizes are: £100,000 bond 11EB 466222 (winner lives in South Glamorgan); £50,000 32B 130941 (Westminster); £25,000 22BW 241886 (Oxfordshire).

Artificial lung for first UK patient

MEDICAL history has been made with the first implant of an artificial lung device in a British patient. The "lung" was inserted in a man in his late seventies who had severe breathing problems.

The operation, it has been disclosed, was carried out at St George's hospital, Tooting, south London on Wednesday night by Panni Kallis. It means the man's blood can be artificially ventilated by the device, known as Ivox. It is the first such operation in Britain and only the 21st in the world.

The patient, who has not been named, was said afterwards to be "as well as can be expected... much better than he was". Yesterday Dr David Bennett, consultant physician at St George's, who was present at the operation, said there were "signs of a marginal improvement". Surgeons could now consider using it for other patients, including Gulf casualties with breathing problems, he said.

The Ivox, which is inserted into a vein in the patient's groin and guided into a main vein in the chest, is used in conjunction with a mechanical ventilator. It transfers oxygen to the blood and takes out carbon dioxide, allowing the more conventional machine to be used at lower pressure to minimise damage to the lungs and blood. It is in the form of a fine tube with hundreds of fibres at one end that allow for transfer of the gases. Hundreds of women volunteers are being sought for two research projects aimed at preventing cervical cancer (Thomson Prentice writes). One study will investigate whether taking vitamin supplements can make mildly abnormal cervical cells return to normal. The other will try to show whether the composition of the cells is altered in women who give up smoking.

Doctors at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund are hoping to recruit at least 800 women within easy reach of London for the studies, which are being led by Anne Szarewski, a specialist in the disease.

Cancer of the cervix kills more than 2,000 women a year in Britain and about 4,400 new cases are diagnosed annually. According to the fund, the number of deaths to the fund, the number of deaths could probably be halved if more women came forward for screening. Experts say that all sexually active women should be screened at least once every five years.

AGENDA

The week ahead

Today: The Princess Royal attends reception for the Aids charity Crusaid. House of Commons public accounts committee stages hearing on MoD fraud. Journalists launch a campaign against Gulf war and censorship.

Tomorrow: Tim Renton, arts minister, and Kenneth Clarke, education secretary, launch arts initiative for young people in London. English Heritage holds press conference on problems of dealing with over 900 derelict listed buildings in London. Church of England General Synod.

Wednesday: The Queen visits relatives of Tornado pilots missing in the Gulf at RAF Marham, Norfolk. Student CND supporters hold anti-war demonstrations across country. British Telecom gives details of campaign against malicious and obscene callers.

Thursday: Dr Robert Runcie retires as Archbishop of Canterbury. In Manchester, 15 former Strangeways prisoners face criminal proceedings on charges of murder and rioting. Countryside Commission gives details of plans for coastline preservation.

Friday: Sinn Fein annual conference starts in Dublin.

Saturday: CND anti-war rally in London. Union of Muslim organisations of UK and Eire holds conference at Luton sixth-form college on Gulf war.

Sunday: Sinn Fein conference ends.

Anglers appeal against navigation ruling

By JOHN YOUNG

THE National Federation of Anglers is hoping to harness the financial muscle of the nation's four million anglers in its fight to prevent thousands of lakes and rivers from being designated public rights of way.

The federation, which last month was given leave to appeal to the House of Lords against a Court of Appeal judgment, plans to lodge its petition this weekend. The action could cost £200,000.

The dispute between fishing and boating interests has its origins in a clash over navigation rights on a 40-mile stretch of the Derwent in North Yorkshire. What began as a parochial issue has become a legal cause célèbre to determine whether boat users should have automatic right of access to any waterway where

past use can be established, regardless of the interests and wishes of riparian owners, anglers and conservationists.

In December 1988, Mr Justice Vinelott ruled in the High Court that the rights of Way Act 1932, which confirmed the public right to use established footpaths across private land, did not apply to stretches of water.

The Yorkshire Derwent Trust and Malton town council, which had brought the action on behalf of boat owners with support from the Inland Waterways Association, appealed against the judge's ruling, and last August it was overturned by the Court of Appeal. Its decision was seen as opening the way for the undisturbed upper stretches of rivers to be used by motorboats and canoes,

and was greeted with dismay by the Country Landowners Association, the Royal Society for Nature Conservation, and the Salmon and Trout Association.

David Bird, president of the anglers' federation, said yesterday that the decision presented a long-term risk, "especially since militant boaters have stated their aim for a public right of navigation from source to mouth of every river."

Ian Carstairs, for the River Derwent Campaign, said that, if the judgment were not challenged, it would be easier for boaters to claim public rights of navigation. This would apply to all craft, from rowing boats to jet skis and powerboats.

John Taunton, general secretary of the Inland Waterways

Association, said that there was a question of boaters being allowed to use any river they wanted. The judgment applied only to waterways where continuous use had been established for 20 years or more.

The Anglers' Co-operative Association, a body established to protect anglers' interests and to fight pollution, is to bring an action for contempt of court next month against the Danish owners of the Wansford trout farm near Great Driffield, Humberside.

The action alleges that the company failed to allow a minimum flow of 15,000 cubic metres of water a day over a weir, and to respect conditions laid down by the Yorkshire Water Authority to safeguard the quality of the water in the West Beck River.

More IRA attacks forecast in Ulster

THE IRA is expected to intensify its terrorist campaign in Northern Ireland in coming months to reassert its presence and quash speculation that a ceasefire is being considered.

Claims that the IRA would call a ceasefire, perhaps this Easter, appears unfounded, although a debate on strategy and objectives between republican hawks and doves is continuing. Hardliners believe that with the IRA's large stockpile of Semtex and weapons it can still change British policy on Northern Ireland.

Next weekend Sinn Fein will hold its annual conference when no calls for an IRA ceasefire are expected. The conference, though, will be asked to commit the party to seeking talks with the British government about making an

independent Ireland "a genuine policy objective".

The move is part of an attempt by Sinn Fein to be seen less by the electorate as a proxy for the IRA and to widen support. The party conscious that some IRA action such as the accidental killing of civilians, are frightening a support.

Police are investigating a shooting incident that followed shortly after a small explosion at Cannock Chase, Staffordshire. Detectives have not ruled out the possibility of a terrorist link between the gun attack on a courting couple in their car at the deliberate explosion near former Territorial Army rifle range. The incidents happened last Thursday but details were not released until the weekend.

Embattled Gorbachev gives law enforcers sweeping new powers

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

SING measures which come seriously close to the imposition of a nationwide state of emergency, Soviet law enforcement agencies, including the KGB, the police and the army, have been given extensive new powers to enforce economic discipline and maintain public order.

A decree issued by President Gorbachev at the weekend permits his interior ministry and KGB officers to enter all industrial and commercial premises, including those run jointly with foreign firms, to check that they are operating according to the law, to be decreed officially in place to combat economic sabotage and to improve the provision of food and consumer goods, but the inspections will also cover accounting

systems and contractual arrangements with foreign firms.

An earlier order, signed jointly by the minister of defence, Marshal Dmitri Yazov, and the interior minister, Boris Pugo, was passed on December 29 but only made public during this weekend.

It instructs police and troops to begin joint patrols of specified regions and cities, including Moscow, from February 1. At times of particular tension, on weekends and public holidays, the order says the troops will be armed and backed up by armoured cars and personnel carriers.

The order has been issued, according to a joint statement by the two ministries, because previous measures have failed to curb the increase in crime. Mr Pugo

said in a newspaper interview that the law and order situation was deteriorating and that "people are literally afraid to go home at night".

The KGB and interior ministry also gained new powers under last week's partial currency reform which withdrew from circulation all high-denomination banknotes. A little-publicised clause of the reform decree gave the KGB and police the right to close or take over banks which refused to comply with central government policy.

Taken together, these three measures allow the security services to penetrate almost every area of Soviet life without breaking the law. They will be able to control banks, investigate and close businesses, and detain people on the streets, sometimes at gunpoint.

They will also be able to keep most of their investigations secret. A short clause at the end of the decree on economic sabotage says that "business secrets" obtained during police and KGB investigations will not be divulged. The sweeping nature of these powers means that they can be used against suspect operations, or selectively to target private or co-operative ventures, as required.

The now-public order on joint police and army patrols has been contested by Moscow city council officials and republic leaders in the Baltic region. Sergei Stankevich, the deputy mayor of Moscow, and Yuri Lazhikov, the chairman of the city's executive committee, said they were appealing to Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president, to have the order suspended. Mr Stankevich said it was "illegal and impermissible" and put the police outside the council's control.

Although the official purpose of the new measures is to prevent economic sabotage and curb rising crime, many liberals suspect that discontent about shortages and the increase in crime is being exploited by hardliners to extend their power and undermine recently elected democratic councils.

They argue that the measures allow the imposition of a de facto state of emergency without the obligation to observe recent constitutional safeguards.

Others fear that the security provisions are a prelude to sharp price increases which, under present conditions, could cause civil unrest. The state committee on prices warned on January 1 that prices would have to rise by between 30 and 70 per cent in the first half of the year and that the rises should be sooner rather than later.

Economists recognise that the withdrawal of high-denomination notes will not by itself bring supply and demand into balance and that further measures - either a more comprehensive monetary reform, or much higher prices for food and other basic necessities - will be required. Popular resentment aroused by the monetary reform is such, however, that further action could risk a violent response.

The central authorities know from last May, when they were forced to withdraw planned price rises, that higher food prices could precipitate mass protests.

Since the beginning of the year, they have also seen how price increases in the Baltic republics were followed by strikes in state industries and heightened social tension.

While there is evidence that those strikes may have been deliberately provoked in order to provoke central intervention, Soviet industry, with neither deliveries nor raw materials nor income ensured for this year, is tinder dry just waiting for a spark.

Croatia talks avert action by military

FROM DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

THOUSANDS of Croats demonstrated in central Zagreb on Tuesday in support of their leaders, who told them they had narrowly averted a confrontation with the Yugoslav army and a taint of civil war without losing an inch of Croatia's sovereignty.

After nine hours of talks in Zagreb, Franjo Tudjman, the Croatian leader, agreed to demobilise Croatia's 20,000 police reserves if the Yugoslav army immediately ended the combat on which its troops were used last week. Dr Tudjman said the country had stepped back to the "edge of the abyss".

Stipe Mesic, who represents Croatia on Yugoslavia's state presidency, said that the conflict might have been postponed. The feuding republics still have to agree on whether Yugoslavia should be a federal or federal state. The next round of talks was scheduled for today, but has been put off until later in the week.

Last week Croatia mobilised its reserves and deployed them in guard buildings, bridges and amid reports of the movement of tanks and troops. The situation increased when the Croatian authorities refused to hand weapons from what the army said were illegal paramilitary units

ready to strike against the army. Croatia insisted that the weapons were in the hands of legitimate police reservists who come under its jurisdiction.

On Friday night, Belgrade television, which is controlled by the Serbian regime, released a film showing the Croatian defence minister, a retired army general with a reputation as an able soldier, secretly ordering a massacre of Yugoslav army officers and their families. In the film, obviously made by Yugoslav counter-intelligence, General Speljel said: "There must be no mercy. This will not be just a war. It will be civil war and in such a war, no questions are asked and no one spared, women and children included." The propaganda effect has been total in Serbia. In Croatia, however, the impact was the opposite. General Speljel has said the report was false.

It seems that one of the gains from Friday's agreement is that Croatia has secured a free hand to tackle the problems of the Knin region, where the Serbs, who represent there the majority population, have proclaimed autonomy and established their own police force. "We shall not give away an inch of Croatian territory," Mr Mesic said, suggesting that Croatian authorities intend to suspend the Knin police.

Beatings by army in Lithuania persist

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN VILNIUS

VIET security forces continued their violent suppression of Lithuanians at the weekend while explaining to the republican government about the "provocation" their soldiers had to endure in local people.

The Vilnius health ministry described as serious the condition of two of the five employees of the republican government who were taken to the city garrison last week with three rib reports.

The Britons, who were released after being stripped of their weapons, said they witnessed what seemed to be the beginning of a bloodbath of the men. One of a fractured skull and the other had undergone haemorrhaging in the head, according to the health ministry.

Meanwhile, the republican government said it received a note from the commander of the local army garrison

to the effect saying that soldiers were being subjected to continual provocation and attacks from local residents, creating a situation which was getting out of control rapidly.

In another development, the former Lithuanian prime minister, Kazimiera Prunskiene yesterday denied news reports that she had sought political asylum in Switzerland. "Such a thought never even crossed my mind," she told the Lithuanian news agency, Elta.

Meanwhile in Moscow, Colonel Viktor Alksnis, a pro-Russian military officer from Latvia who has become the scourge of Soviet democrats, has predicted that the army will take the law into their own hands and the Baltic republics will descend into civil war. "The situation in the army now is like it was in 1917," he said in an interview with the Soviet weekly, *Argumenty i Fakty*.



Forced to flee: Siad Barre, whose whereabouts are unknown

Coup plot is foiled in Ciskei

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

BRIGADIER Oupa Gqozo, the military strongman who rules South Africa's nominally independent Ciskei black homeland, has survived another attempted coup and this time has announced the death of his main rival.

Brigadier Gqozo, who seized power last February, announced yesterday in Bisho, the capital, that Colonel Mangwani Khosana was killed in a gun battle with his troops on Saturday night.

Lieutenant-General Charles Sebe, the brother of former President Lennox Sebe, was wounded and was being hunted in the bush, the brigadier said. There was a 5,000 rand (£1,000) reward, about as much as the average yearly wage, for his capture, dead or alive.

Details of the coup attempt were sketchy. Residents of Bisho said they heard gunfire during the night and Brigadier Gqozo said he had been warned about a plot three weeks ago.

On Saturday road blocks were placed around the capital and Colonel Khosana and General Sebe were intercepted when they crossed into Ciskei from the direction of the nearby Transkei homeland. It was not clear how many troops the men had with them.

Ciskei, which with Transkei is one of two official homelands for Xhosa-speaking people, was granted independence status by Pretoria in 1976 and was ruled until last February by President Sebe who imposed a corrupt and despotic regime which made the homeland the poorest in South Africa.

Brigadier Gqozo's right-hand man in last February's coup was Colonel Khosana but the two fell out and the colonel was arrested on treason charges. A few months ago he managed to escape.

Wily Barre played East against West

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

JALILE Mohammed Siad Barre, the wily, absolute ruler of Somalia for more than 21 years, had only one resource which he exploited ruthlessly: his country's vital strategic position. It enabled him to play off the superpowers, winning by turn massive Soviet and American aid, to begin and lose a war against Ethiopia, survive numerous coup attempts and turn aside the accusations of human rights abuses.

But the end of the Cold War, the collapse of his socialist experiments, corruption, a cut-off of foreign aid, widespread famine and growing tribalism eventually brought him down.

After seizing power with Soviet help in a military coup, Mr Barre quickly threw his lot in with the Soviet Union. He granted Moscow blanket rights to use the port of Berbera to build up the Soviet presence in the Red Sea and Africa. He sent thousands of students to Moscow for training.

He launched a radical socialist economic programme, nationalising - and virtually ruining - main industries. And he spearheaded a virulent nationalist campaign against the West.

After ten years in power and with a large Soviet presence in his country, he felt strong enough to

take up an old nationalist claim, the unification of the Somali people in Ethiopian-controlled Ogaden. An earlier conflict had ended in a ceasefire in 1964. With a population of only 5.9 million and a per capita income of about £100 a year, Somalia attacked Ethiopia, exploiting the chaos that followed the coup. His country briefly became the flashpoint of East-West relations. But he miscalculated: the Kremlin had already thrown in its lot with President Mengistu, regarding Ethiopia as the bigger prize. Moscow refused to back him, and tried instead to mediate. On the battlefield the Ethiopians inflicted a crushing defeat.

Mr Barre quickly turned to the Chinese and Americans. But Washington was not eager to become embroiled in a tribal war. It did nothing to prevent humiliating defeat. Mr Barre faced a military coup in 1978 by disaffected officers, one of several which he quashed ruthlessly.

As East-West rivalry in Africa subsided, so did Mr Barre's leverage. For a while he was still seen as a bulwark against communism in Africa. The Americans look over the naval base in Berbera. Somalia's campaign to improve literacy and forge unity won Western tolerance, and the memory of Somalia's co-operation to allow German paratroopers to storm a hijacked plane at Mogadishu lingered.

A member of the Arab League, Somalia received large-scale aid from Saudi Arabia, but this was unevenly distributed and only heightened divisions in society. Western human rights groups argued successfully for a cut-off in aid, which accounted for two-fifths of the country's gross national product. Drought, starvation, the influx of 140,000 Ethiopian refugees and mismanagement took their toll.

Though Mr Barre liberalised the economy in the 1980s under pressure from Washington, he relied more and more on his own Marehan tribe from southern Somalia for support, stoking the fires of rebellion elsewhere. Somalia began to disintegrate into factional tribalism. Desertions from the army were frequent. Economic growth averaged only 0.3 per cent in 1988; exports fell eight per cent in a decade; Somalia's debt was one of the highest in Africa.

The Somali National Movement (SNM), predominantly from the rival Isaaq tribe in the north, began fighting the government in 1981. By last year the three main rebel groups, the SNM, the United Somali Congress and the Somali Patriotic Movement, had gained control of most of the country. Riots were dealt with ruthlessly: in 1989 the army turned its guns on demonstrators, killing 450 and injuring more than 1,000 in a few days.

The Italians tried to mediate together with the Egyptians. But by January the rebels had captured most of the capital, and bloody street fighting forced thousands of residents to flee, including almost all foreign residents.

Mr Barre, thought to be in his eighties, fled to an unknown destination yesterday, probably Libya.

'Lenient' sentences for China dissidents

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

DIPLOMATS say comparatively lenient jail sentences imposed on leaders of the 1989 Tiananmen Square revolt underline Peking's vulnerability to international pressure, particularly threats to China's most favoured nation trading status with America.

Five dissidents, including the student leader, Wang Dan, aged 25, were sentenced at the weekend. He was jailed for four years after allegedly co-operating with his captors, while Ren Wanding, aged 46, an accountant and veteran human rights activist, who refused to bend under interrogation, received seven years' imprisonment. Three other defendants were sentenced to between two and five years.

These terms are considerably lighter than those imposed just over a decade ago on the Democracy Wall activists. But further trials are expected soon of two journalists, Wang Juntao and Chen Ziming, who have been branded the masterminds of the uprising. They face imprisonment of up to 15 years.

Sixty-six detainees were released at the weekend because they "showed repentance" or were excused their "minor crimes".

Peking emphasised that all but Ren had "shown repentance", and it tried to present the pro-democracy activists as a broken and spent force. Xinhua, the official news agency, said Wang, aged 25, received a four-year sentence because, although he had committed "serious crimes", he had "shown such repentance as confessing his own crimes and exposing others". The authorities seemed to be attempting to blacken his name as an informer.

Bao Zunxin, the philosopher who once referred to Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader, as a "senile and fatuous autocrat", was sentenced to five years. Guo Haifeng, aged 24, a student leader, was sentenced to four years. Yao Junling, whose occupation is unknown, received a two-year term.

Three defendants were convicted but released, including Liu Xiaobo, a literary critic, aged 35, who was one of four dissidents who staged a last-ditch hunger strike. Xinhua said he had shown repentance, and had "performed major meritorious services".

The agency reported that another 18 detainees had been released without trial because they "showed repentance" and a further 45 had been "excused from arrest" for "minor crimes".

On June 4, 1989, the army killed hundreds and perhaps thousands of unarmed pro-democracy protesters in Peking. Most observers said that Wang had only been involved in an unarmed student agitation, and Ren in a few public essay-reading sessions.

Students try to storm Ershad villa

Dhaka - Nearly 1,000 students tried yesterday to storm the villa where ousted President Ershad of Bangladesh is detained. They demanded that he be sent to jail within 24 hours, witnesses said.

The rally came a day after police charged him for possessing illegal weapons. They also charged him and three former ministers with misappropriating more than \$8 million (£4 million) in a deal to buy aircraft from British Aerospace last year.

The witnesses said riot police pushed the students back. "We want the government to abide by the 24-hour deadline or risk another attempt to whisk the deposed autocrat onto the street," student leaders said. (Reuters)

Bomb blast

Marseille - A small bomb exploded outside a building, housing offices of immigrant associations, here. There were no injuries, police said. (Reuters)

Tamils killed

Colombo - Helicopter gunships killed 25 Tamil rebels during the bombing of a hideout in northeast Sri Lanka on Friday, the military said. (AP)

New government

Praia, Cape Verde - A caretaker government was sworn in, two weeks after the ruling African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde lost its 15-year grip on power in the West African archipelago. The new prime minister is Carlos Veiga, a lawyer. (Reuters)

Haiti killings

Port-au-Prince - Rumors of a plot to free Roger Lafontant, the jailed leader of a January 6 coup attempt, provoked violent protests. At least six people were dead and eight wounded, reports said. (AP)

Kashmir violence

Srinagar - More than 40 people were killed at the weekend in the Kashmiri capital. The dead were mostly civilians caught in the crossfire of Muslim rebels and soldiers of the Indian army.

Captive gets fighting fit for Burmese democracy

FROM NEIL KELLY IN BANGKOK

ALONG University Avenue in Rangoon, neighbours sometimes glimpse a slender figure doing aerobics and working in the garden of the dilapidated colonial mansion where army vehicles stand at the gate and armed soldiers are always at the front door.

In such ways, Aung San Suu Kyi, the imprisoned leader of Burma's democracy movement, keeps fit for the task she has set herself: to replace the military leaders who have ruled her country for 30 years with a democratic government.

Although she and her National League for Democracy were overwhelming victors in last year's election, her struggle demands a heavy price. She has been in virtual solitary confinement for more than 18 months and the generals appear intent on detaining her indefinitely. They describe her military custody as "generous and moderate". Her family is far away. Her husband Dr Michael Aris, a former Oxford don, teaches at Harvard,



Suu Kyi inspired by father's struggle for independence

while her teenage sons are at school in England. None of them has been allowed to visit her for more than a year and even their letters have been stopped, diplomats in Rangoon say.

Daw Suu Kyi is allowed no visitors and her telephone was cut off when the army moved in. Her only link with the outside world is a shortwave radio. She rarely sees her aged aunt who lives in the compound, and can

speak only with a maid who takes her food or with the soldiers who prevent her from going out the gate and from receiving visitors. Passers-by who linger near the gate are moved on roughly. The guards change frequently as some of them have been won over to Daw Suu Kyi's cause.

At one time, she received parcels from her husband but she told him to stop sending them when the government began photographing them to use in propaganda. For the same reason Daw Suu Kyi goes into the garden less, as intelligence officers are there with their cameras. They show the pictures to foreign visitors who ask about her.

Pictures were the closest that Sadako Ogata, a human rights worker, got to Daw Suu Kyi when she visited Burma recently to investigate allegations of abuses. Her request for a meeting was turned down. Instead she was shown pictures of the prisoner with assurances "see how well she is".

Early in her detention, Daw Suu Kyi, aged 45, briefly went on hunger strike until she had

secured promises that her staff and supporters would be well treated in jail. Her husband says she can cope with imprisonment indefinitely. After his last visit Dr Aris said: "Suu is entirely alone in her house and isolated from the outside world by armed guards, but she is in good health and her spirit is indomitable." Daw Suu Kyi is believed to be working on a history of the struggle for independence and democracy in Burma. She plays the piano and improves her Japanese.

In the big high-ceilinged house are many reminders of her family, especially photographs of her father, General Aung San, who led Burma to independence. Friends say his example sustains her today when she is confronted with the impossible choice the army has given her. They say they will release her immediately if she goes into what would be permanent exile. Colleagues say she would never accept such a proposition. "Her priority is democracy in Burma and mine is somehow to keep the family together," her husband said.

"Before we married I promised my wife I would never stand between her and her country, and I have never tried to deter her from fulfilling what she sees as her duty to her people. Any person knowing her dedication as I do would realise that such an attempt is sure to fail. Though often filled with anxiety for her safety, I fully support and believe in what she is doing."

General Saw Maung, the leader of the regime, says her marriage to a foreigner rules out the possibility of her leading Burma. The general's assertion is not shared by 80 per cent of the population who voted for her. She even had a majority among defence force voters.

When the European parliament awarded her its annual human rights prize last week, the citation said: "Daw Suu Kyi risked her life by demanding democracy in Burma but she has not ceased calling on her supporters to persist in non-violent protests against the military regime." MEPs have asked to present the award to her personally, but will also be kept away.

Lenient
sentences
for China
dissidents

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An Oxfordshire field as seen from a Bristol to Paddington train.



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Beating the other enemy

Ronald Butt

Although certainly serious, the direct economic consequences of the Gulf war are as yet unquantifiable. All that has been officially revealed so far is that the cost of the British presence in the Gulf had already reached nearly £1 billion when the allied attack began 11 days ago and has since been running at the rate of some £3.6 million a day.

In the overall framework of public spending, however, these figures are comparatively small, though of course they are no indication of future costs resulting from the replacement of weapons and equipment. But regardless of the ultimate financial cost of the war, the greater immediate cause for economic concern is the underlying deterioration of the economy, for entirely separate reasons, which would now be the dominant national news if the war were not taking place.

The government, therefore, could make no greater mistake than to keep its eyes so immovably fixed on the Middle East as to leave itself no time to think about the deep and dangerous recession we are now in.

It is hardly necessary to set the scene. The rate of decline in manufacturing output has become increasingly steep, indicating a long and deep recession. Unemployment continues to rise, and last week's survey by the Association of British Chambers of Commerce showed that the service industries are following manufacturing into recession. That suggests that unemployment will rise further still. Although the 1990 current account deficit ended smaller than that of 1989, it was still the second largest on record and, despite improved exports, there are now clear signs that exporting will become more difficult as overseas markets tend towards recession.

'A financial environment is needed in which it is not necessary to fight inflation by recession twice in a decade'

All this is the consequence of the high interest rates which the government has had to impose to fulfil its overriding commitment to beat back inflation and has to maintain to keep sterling above its lower limit in the European exchange-rate mechanism.

Quite apart from war costs, Britain's industrial structure will emerge weakened by this second attempt to subdue an inflation which should never have been allowed to happen. It should therefore be a government priority to ensure not only that a third inflationary bout is avoided but that the productive economy is rebuilt on a firmer financial basis.

In the City now, those concerned with corporate finance and with raising venture capital have little to do while those who advise on bankruptcies and liquidations are busy. Uncertainty pervades the stock markets for reasons that have nothing to do with the Gulf. Only the gilt-edged markets show some signs of activity, no doubt encouraged by anticipation of resumed government debt-funding some time in the new financial year. (This is likely quite apart from war debt.)

The glorious days when Nigel Lawson could boast of paying off the national debt have ended for the foreseeable future. With

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

Why does the news always last half an hour? I'd better qualify that. Though the TV news programme I had in mind does last half an hour, some are longer, some shorter. But the point is this: a fixed time slot is allocated by programme planners to news reports before the news has happened. Then, when it does, the news is stretched, squeezed or guillotined to fit the slot.

During periods of intense public interest in some unfolding story, the slots are extended. But once extended they stay extended, until somebody deems the crisis over. It surely need not be so. Weather reports vary in length: when there is no weather — so to speak — they are short. When time is needed to explain a complicated advancing cold front, time is found.

And the duration of travel news for commuters also depends on what problems there are. If, tomorrow morning, there were no delays or cancellations, the report would simply say so. You would no more expect to hear some hapless announcer trying to pad the thing out to a standard length than you would expect, should the whole of London Transport's bus fleet have been sucked overnight into some mysterious cosmic vortex, to hear that there was something important to explain about this morning's bus services but no time left to explain it. They never say that, of course, in world news reports, but that is what it amounts to. Time is up, so other items are amputated.

Which is why I ask, now that the news is all about the Gulf, what has happened to the rest of the world? I realise that Saddam Hussein is killing cormorants. I would not dare question the logic which accords to this the never received when he was gassing Kurds. The monster is burning animals and has ruined any chances he ever had with the British public. But what has happened in the aftermath of civil war in Liberia? Are there (as I suspect) more people being killed in Rwanda than in the Gulf? Are they still murdering each other in Natal? Newspapers relegate, but at least do not exclude, these topics. Radio and television reports simply cut them out.

As for events closer to home, it has been some weeks now (it seems) since anything worth reporting has happened at all. Cabinet ministers flicker on the margins of our recognition, while local government has altogether ceased to exist. There have been no chip-pan fires since January 15.

At this point I will take my argument the opposite way from what you perhaps expected. I will not argue for reduced coverage of the Gulf, nor even for expanded coverage of other topics. I will argue for a phased withdrawal of all news.

Look at it this way. Do we miss the chip-pan fires? No. Were we planning to do anything about Liberia or Rwanda? Sadly not. Is it frustrating to be deprived of local councillors' opin-

ions? I think we can bear it. . . .

The Gulf reminds us of our mothers' advice: that when a problem is getting you down, throw yourself wholeheartedly into something different for a while. When you return to your worry, it won't seem nearly so important. Throwing ourselves, as we have, into single-minded contemplation of the Middle East for two weeks, we return with a shock to be reminded that the rest of the world, the balance of payments, and even the Derbyshire Dales district council have all been going on much as before, but without us. Our inattention has made no difference to them; their temporary disappearance from view has hardly troubled us.

Sooner or later, the Gulf war will pass. As it fades from prominence, there will be less to report. That, my friends, will be our great chance. Instead of bringing back on stage the more parochial news that we have elbowed aside, let us replace the Gulf with . . . nothing.

We have got into the habit of not reading about Rotwellers, so why break it? If we must be weaned off the Gulf, let us be weaned not with a return to Rotwellers, but with interludes of military music and excerpts from Mrs Thatcher's old speeches. These can expand to fill the time left by shrinking Gulf news, so that the jolt is not too sudden. Later, these, too, can be gradually withdrawn in favour of light classical music and old Abba tracks. . . . and then? Why not just stick with Abba?

Fred Halliday examines the tactics of a self-professed neutral that in fact backs the allies

Tehran looks to the spoils of war

Were the pilots seeking a haven from allied attack, as the Americans suspect, or were they defecting? The arrival in Iran of a number of Iraqi warplanes over the weekend has yet to be satisfactorily explained, but highlights Iran's intense interest in the outcome of the conflict.

Iran is not formally a member of the anti-Iraqi coalition. It has not sent troops to fight from Saudi territory and is not conducting military operations along its own frontier with Iraq. Yet it is by no means neutral, in the sense that Sweden and Switzerland were in the second world war — entitled to trade with both sides, including the sale of arms, provided they did so equally.

Iran, by contrast, has proclaimed its support for UN resolutions on Kuwait. It is not providing military assistance to Iraq and, some border leakage apart, has not broken the economic blockade. Going further than the allies, it has said it will not recognise any final

settlement that involves Kuwaiti territorial concessions to Iraq.

Iran's position can be explained by its own eight-year war against Iraq, which ended in August 1988. At issue in that war was the Iran-Iraq frontier, in the present war, the seizure of Kuwait. But the central issue is the same: the kind of regime that should exist in Baghdad. It was revolutionary Iran's threat to Baathist Iraq, whether real or bombastic, that led Saddam to launch his war in September 1980, and Iran persisted in it in the hope of establishing a sister regime to the west, the Islamic Republic of Iraq.

In the end, in part due to Iraq's use of gas, in part the intervention of the American navy on Iraq's side, Iran was forced to abandon its campaign, and strategic defeat seemed final. Saddam's invasion of Kuwait has now appeared to come as a stroke of amazing, if not God-given, good fortune. Iran's isolation has been broken; Saddam announced immediately after taking Kuwait that he was

prepared to drop all claims against Iran and give it everything it wanted, though in the case of compensation for war damage, that was clearly an exaggeration.

In subsequent talks, Iran refused to be drawn by Iraq, with the support of fundamentalists in Tehran, into a new anti-American coalition. The Iranian leadership has seen the war as presenting both a danger and an opportunity, and has sought to manoeuvre itself to take best advantage of Saddam's defeat.

The opportunity for Iran is simply that Saddam's removal will open the way for the Islamic forces in Iraq to take power. Tehran has long hosted a Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Iraq, based on exiled clerics opposed to Saddam. Other opposition groups, including the pan-Islamic Da'wa party, which waged a guerrilla campaign against Saddam in 1979 and 1980, have links with Iran. The difficulty for these groups is that they do not have the legitimacy that Kho-

meini's clerical opposition acquired in the eyes of the Iraqi people by their association with Iran during the eight-year war.

One solution, favoured by the Iraqi opposition and entertained by Iran, is for a coalition of Iran, Syria and their respective allies to establish a new regime in Iraq. This would include the Islamic forces, the Kurds, the communist factions and dissident Baathists based in Damascus. A former Iraqi military commander, General Hassan al-Naqib, has been mentioned as an acceptable interim president.

Expressions of concern for the suffering of the Iraqi people are in part designed to help Tehran's Iraqi allies to come to power. With a pro-American junta in neighbouring Pakistan, Turkey — a Nato member — involved directly in the war against Iraq, and CIA-backed guerrillas operating in Afghanistan, the last thing Tehran wants is an American-backed regime established in Baghdad or a new security system in the

Gulf involving western troops. Tehran is also concerned that Saddam, even given down to defeat, has stolen Iran's militant clothes. It is he who champions a radical Islam and it is his "missiles of justice" that have landed on Tel Aviv. Hence the ambiguous noises now emerging from Tehran: condemnation of Saddam for the destruction he has brought on his people, but emphasis on the need to preserve the integrity of Iraq — and condemnation of American and British military intervention and long-term goals.

When discussion in the West turns to the need to keep Israel out of the war in order to preserve the coalition, this is usually meant to refer to its Arab members. But the weakest link in the chain is the one nobody mentions — Tehran's tactical indulgence. If any Israeli riposte led to action near Iran's frontiers, this could go up in smoke.

The author is Professor of International Relations at the London School of Economics.

Bernard Levin backs Jeeves in upholding the eternal values in times of crisis

Tornadoes give way to tomatoes

Let us begin with Archimedes. We all know the story ("Eureka! Eureka!") of his leap from the bath as the law of displacement was demonstrated before his delighted eyes; those who know a little more about him can say how he died.

He was intent on tracing a theorem in the sand, so intent that he did not see the Roman soldier stooping over him, nor hear the soldier's barked command to identify himself, whereupon the soldier killed him. (We can pause here to mourn the further discoveries he might have made, but only if we keep in mind one of the most powerful truths of history, demonstrated perfectly in this case, that death is more powerful than murder: the name of Archimedes will be known for ever, but the name of his killer was forgotten even before the sage was buried.)

It was a good way to die, was it not? For his death came from the power of his concentration on his geometry, and that concentration came in turn from his belief that the truths of mathematics, which are eternal, are more important than war and peace, which are ephemeral.

That is dangerous doctrine, of course, particularly at this moment. True, we have progressed; I do not think that however long the Gulf war drags on we shall see well-dressed ladies with well-bred voices handing out white feathers to men in mufti presumed to be of military age. Yet there is, or should be, a place for those who want to say "Leave me alone".

When the Nazis staged their abortive Austrian *putsch* in 1934, some of Karl Kraus's friends, convinced that Hitler was about to take over the country, went to his home to tell him he must get out.

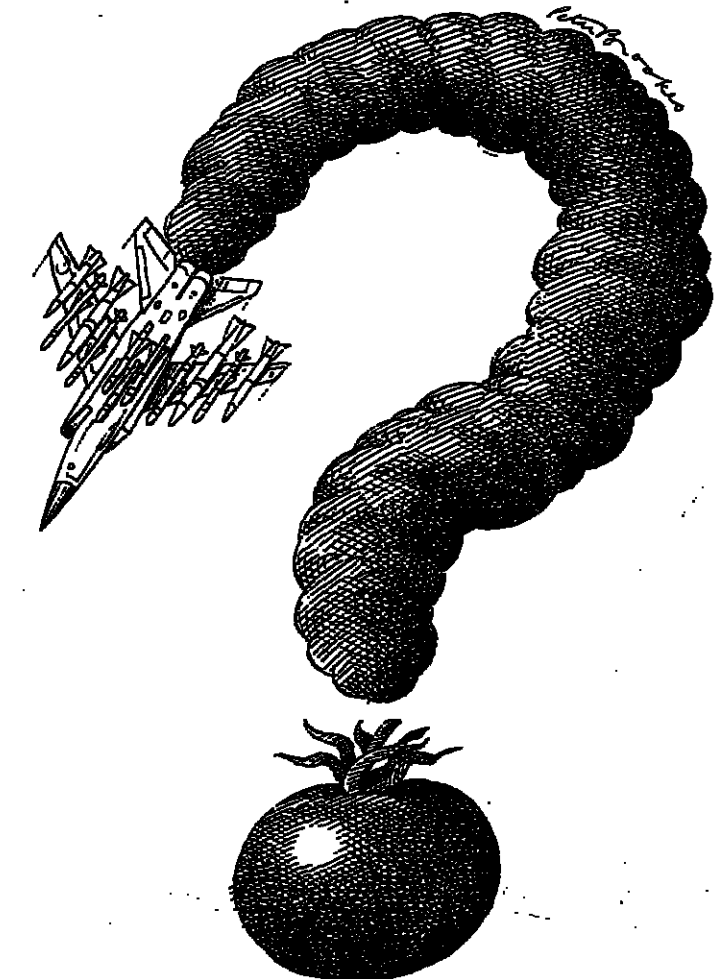
"Don't bother me," said Kraus, insisting that the particular comma-problem he was working on (he was a fanatical linguistic purist) took priority.

"But Hitler is here," they said, "what do commas matter now?" "Fool!" he cried, "if you had cared enough about commas, Hitler would not be here!"

If there is no part of you that wanted to cheer at Kraus's magnificent reply, you should oblige your imagination to take more exercise. There is a much smaller, but no less haunting, illustration of the power of living *sub specie aeternitatis*, in Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*: at the siege of Gondor, when Gandalf on Shadowfax remains alone to defy the enemy, a cock crows, and Tolkien holds up the action to make the point that the cock knows and cares nothing of the battle, even though it is the last battle, the battle for the world. (The cock's crow is answered by the horn-calls of the men of Rohan, coming at last to save the city.)

Robert Ardrey, best known for his pioneering ecological studies such as *The Territorial Imperative*, was earlier a playwright and film script-writer. *Thunder Rock* was an ingenious patriotic parable designed to give strength to the coming struggle (the play was first staged in 1939); it is set in a light-house where a man, disgusted with the world and its troubles, has gone to live as a hermit, ignoring everything outside his fortress. It doesn't work, but for a striking reason: the ghosts of shipwrecked men and women break into his life, and in the end he rejoins living humanity.

Perhaps Diogenes portrays the breed of *Jauneau* best: when Alexander, having heard of the



wise man who rejected society, went to call on him, the conqueror of the world asked Diogenes humbly, "How can I help you?" The curmudgeon's reply was, "Well, to begin with, you can stand out of my light!"

Which, of course, brings me to tomatoes. I have recently seen a huge advertisement (a quarter of a page) for the said delicacy. (I was once dragged, over the telephone, into settling an argument going on at a friend's house: is a tomato a fruit or a vegetable, and whichever it is how can we prove it? Hardly pausing for breath, Solomon Levin said it was a vegetable, and the test was that you put salt on it: were it a fruit, you would put custard on it.) The ad was couched in a wonderfully old-fashioned style, as witness:

The mouth-watering flavor of this astonishing Tomato is a revelation — until you've en-

joyed it for yourself, you simply cannot possibly imagine how absolutely delicious a Tomato can be! . . . Just imagine the taste-thrills you'll enjoy as you prepare fresh-off-the-plant super-salads and sauces . . . just picture the mouth-watering salsas you'll glory to as you sink your teeth into the ruby-red, rich, delicious flesh of these astounding Tomatoes right off the bush!

There is more of this, about fifteen times as much, but that will give you the flavor. But although I do not propose to buy a dozen Tomato plants and sink my teeth into etc., I do glory — the word is not too strong — in a country at war that is willing to stop what it is doing and contemplate an advertisement for tomato plants couched in terms as luscious as the goods are guaranteed to be. In this, of course, I should be commending the advertiser, after

all, I presume that the tomato-plant seeds did not come from Iraq, and I would have no objection if they had, for tomatoes are notoriously unwarlike.

During the second world war, Sir Hugh Robertson, founder and conductor of the Glasgow Orpheus Choir, was a complete and unswerving pacifist. Some clown in Parliament demanded that: this underminer of the nation's will should be silenced, whereupon Churchill growled, "I don't see why being a pacifist should make a man sing flat", and no more was heard from the super-patriot.

I all comes back to Wodehouse (an unlikely companion for Karl Kraus). In the middle of one of Bingo Little's matrimonial crises, Jeeves is attending to Bertie, who is so distracted by his friend's problem that when Jeeves murmurs, "The tie a little tighter, Sir, one aims at the perfect butterfly effect", Bertie so far forgets himself as to cry out, "Oh, Jeeves, what do ties matter at a time like this?", whereupon Jeeves, shocked, says, "There is no time, Sir, when ties do not matter."

I am on the side of Jeeves. I know that men and women and children have died in the Gulf war already, and many more will die before the contest is over. I am not such a feelingless brute as to think that a shrug is sufficient for an epiphany on them. But there must be a corner where ridiculous prose extols tomatoes without diminishing the struggle, let alone those who die in it, and another echo from the second world war points up that moral. There was rationing, of course, for every kind of foodstuff, and even clothes: pregnant women had priority for milk. Though jokes were made, it was no joke, but there was one, and only one, part of the system where stern necessity relaxed. Though they had no serious nutritional value, children's sweets were not forgotten: there was a page in the ration-book for them, and by handing over the appropriate coupon together with the price, a precious packet of bull-eyes or a bar of fruit-and-nut could be had.

Whoever thought of that escape-hatch (probably Churchill again) had taken the measure of the people, and measured rightly. So let it be with the tomato fanatic: let no one say there is no place in this grim time for him and his miracle vegetables. They also serve.

Who will foot the footage bill?

Should John Major be tempted to call a snap election if he emerges in the aftermath of war with his popularity enhanced, he should first talk to the television chiefs. For they say there will be no money left to provide the comprehensive election coverage on which candidates have come to rely.

The huge cost of bringing the Gulf war into the nation's living rooms has drained the BBC, ITV and Channel 4. Election war chests and contingency funds have already been raided.

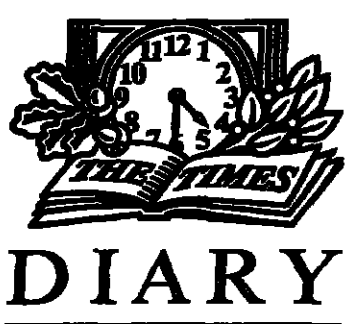
ITN, which is funded by the 14 regional ITV companies, is spending an extra £120,000 per day on the war. The shareholders have been told that a prolonged conflict could cost an additional £1 million a month, which they will have to find.

Satellite links, although expensive, are far outstripped by the cost of manpower. ITN has 75 reporters and technicians in the war zone, and the cost of chemical warfare protection suits and respirators alone exceeds £50,000.

Some funds earmarked for election coverage have already been used. If an election were called this year, ITN says it would be forced to ask the networks to stump up extra cash, on top of additional funding for the Gulf.

John Willis, Channel 4's deputy director of programmes, says: "We are spending an additional £150,000 a week, and have already eaten into the £500,000 contingency fund we put aside for an election."

The BBC, already £2 million over budget before the first Tornado took off, will also have problems funding election coverage. "With China, Eastern Europe and the Conservative leadership election we have had a very news-



DIARY

worthy — but very expensive — couple of years," says a source at Television Centre. "Now we have to find the money for the Gulf war. It's impossible to budget in advance, so we are planning expenditure on a week-to-week basis."

Keeping the job open

The greatest sadness Dr Robert Runcie will feel on his retirement as Archbishop of Canterbury this week is the continuing captivity in Lebanon of his special envoy, Terry Waite — kidnapped four years ago this week. But Runcie has ensured that Waite will remain on the Lambeth Palace payroll as Secretary for Anglican Communion Affairs.

Soon after Waite disappeared, his work was taken over by Roger Symon, who was given the title acting secretary. More recently Lambeth Palace stopped paying the £25 a day war-zone insurance that Waite took out before leaving London, but Runcie is determined that for both symbolic and practical reasons, Waite's formal position must be preserved. "His appointment does not expire with the retirement of Dr Runcie," says Lambeth Palace. Jonathan Mantle, whose biography of Runcie is due out in April, says: "The new archbishop will of course care deeply about Terry's plight but inevitably he will not have the same sense of personal respon-

sibility for him. Waite has now been held longer than some murderers in this country."

● It's never too late. Two hundred years after The Observer misreported the facts of Mozart's death, the paper has issued a belated apology to the composer's family. The Observer's Christmas 1791 issue reported the death of "the celebrated German composer" on December 15. "We are now able to confirm that the composer died on 5th December and was, in fact, Austrian," says last Sunday's paper, presumably after 200 years of exhaustive research. "In our defence we should like to point out that news travelled more slowly in those days." Apologies now travel faster. We at The Times also called Mozart German and we too would like to put the record straight.

More is better

Move over Mozart, for 1991 also marks the centenary of the birth of Sergei Prokofiev, and the first recording of one of his works as originally written. It is the 1947 Violin Sonata, generally played as a work for solo violin, but which was

solo piece, but when played as such does not stretch the capacity of a great virtuoso. It is totally unlike Prokofiev's solo pieces for piano, which push the capacity of a great pianist to the limits.

Oleg Prokofiev, the composer's youngest son, who settled in Britain 19 years ago with his English wife, believes that the work has never been performed, let alone recorded, in its original version. "When first written, it was not easy to get enough good violinists together," he says.

Such logistical hitches have been no bar to Conifer Records, which plans to release its recording at the end of the month played by 22 violins from the London Music Orchestra, conducted by Mark Stephenson. Where will Oleg Prokofiev be uncorking the champagne? "I expect to be in Glasgow for its Prokofiev festival, although I hear from Moscow in time, there is a chance that I shall spend the anniversary there."

Poorly judged

What may be Britain's oldest court is about to try its last felon — or, more likely, speeding motorist. Whorwellsdown court, in the Wiltshire village of Steeple Aston, which was punishing offenders for stealing beehives during the reign of Henry III, is to be abolished at the end of March.

The court's records include a parchment detailing its proceedings in 1262, and it has been sitting continuously ever since. The decision to transfer its proceedings to nearby Trowbridge has infuriated Stanley Blackmore, the long-serving chairman of the bench. "One of the reasons given for closure is cost-effectiveness," he says, "but how can you make economies when people like me do not receive or want one brass farthing? Abolishing this court shows we have no respect or regard for English history."



intended for an ensemble. Prokofiev scholar and composer Christopher Palmer drew attention to the piece to coincide with the centenary, which falls on April 23. "It has always been known as a



AMERICANS AFRAID

In time of war, the civil population is not expected to fight. It is not expected to be especially brave. But it is expected to support troops who are risking death, by maintaining normality on the home front and by doing nothing that might offer comfort to the enemy.

These days, all wars have an element of "totality" to them. An enemy can achieve one of the goals of war, to sap the political will to fight, by terrorising civilian populations without actually attacking them or, at worst, by attacking them at random in statistically insignificant numbers. The best defence against such terror is to refuse to be terrorised by it.

Many Europeans have been shocked over the past week by the near-panic that appears to have seized many Americans following the outbreak of war in the Gulf. Saddam Hussein's boast of worldwide terror, to which the rest of the world has reacted with a mixture of contempt and sensible precautions, has been permitted to upheave much of American life, reviving the spectre of the "great American wimp" that gained currency after President Reagan's Libyan raid in 1986.

In recent days, evidence of this revival has passed from the anecdotal to the ubiquitous. Transatlantic travel, west-to-east, has fallen by over a half. Hotels are nearly empty. Agencies are laying off hundreds of staff. American companies are even banning their workers from travelling abroad, under pressure from the terrorist's secret weapon, the American insurance industry.

Much of this is couched in weasel words suggesting that people should not behave as normal at such a "grim" time, an attitude that was considered treasonably demoralising in the second world war. Whatever the excuse, Americans are giving the impression that they are scared witless by the hostilities. Europe's biggest single export earner, travel and tourism, is facing devastation as the US imposes a de facto economic sanction on its allies at a cost that could be higher than the war itself.

The American defence is that courage is

for those paid to fight — America's military courage in the Gulf is not in question — not for civilians. Why should they put themselves at risk and suppress their sudden inclination to stay close to home and hearth? That would make sense were two conditions to be met: first that Americans would indeed be in greater danger by travelling, second that their staying at home makes no difference to a war, one incidentally that they themselves would on their leaders and allies. Neither condition is valid.

The belief that Americans are in great personal danger in visiting Europe, or anywhere else at present, is near ludicrous. Even at the height of Middle East (and IRA) terrorism, in the 1970s and 1980s, the risk to travellers was statistically infinitesimal. Most Americans are much safer abroad than at home. The switch of dozens of tours and conferences to American cities notorious for their street violence leaves Europeans mystified. As an American television reporter in Riyadh said last week, a truly rational citizen of New York or Washington or Chicago, anxious over his or her safety, would get on a PanAm jet and fly at once to the comparatively well policed and protected streets of Riyadh or Tel Aviv.

Saddam Hussein's threat to repeat the cocktail of terrorist outrages familiar over the past decade is plausible. But even the execution of the threat would not justify any Western citizen in altering his or her lifestyle to kowtow to Saddam. His intention is not simply to kill or maim innocent people, but by threatening to do so to undermine the West's peace of mind, disrupt its economy and induce its public opinion to turn against the war. So successful has this threat proved in the US that he hardly need bother to send out his killers. His terror has done its job.

Saddam was always shrewd enough to know his war would be fought on two fronts: in the desert and in the hearts and minds of the Western democracies. America's troops and those of the allies are doing their best to defeat him on the first front. Americans back home should not be undermining them on the second.

THE COST OF GREENERY

By an accident of timing, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has published its survey of the state of the environment in the developed world just as people's eyes are turning to the huge oil spill in the Gulf. True, the birds struggling to break free of the clinging oil are victims not of man's carelessness but of the use of pollution as a weapon of war. But the images are a reminder of the scale of modern industry and of its capacity to contaminate vast areas of the planet.

That is the underlying theme of the OECD report, *The State of the Environment*. The organisation that represents the world's 24 richest nations acknowledges for the first time that there will have to be changes in the way economies are managed if the environment is to be protected. The established rich now accept that a balance needs to be struck between growth and the sustenance of the planet, and that establishing such a balance cannot be a wholly painless process.

The OECD is an organisation dedicated to encouraging growth, so it falls well short of endorsing the zero-growth policies espoused by some environmentalists. It also draws attention to the immense environmental improvements, such as the elimination of bacterial contamination in water supplies, that have been achieved as a direct result of scientific progress and economic growth.

However, in many chemicals, ranging from the testing of new chemicals to the payment of agricultural subsidies, the OECD does call for changes in government and private-sector behaviour. And in at least two areas it concludes that society will have to halt the growth of demand. The damage done by road transport, it says, cannot be corrected simply by the rigorous application of anti-

pollution measures, necessary as they may be. There must be a reduction in travel, particularly by cars.

Similar doubts apply to tourism. Sensitive travellers have long shuddered at the impact of mass tourism, but the industry accounts for 26 per cent of the export earnings of OECD countries. Left unchecked, the OECD warns, the industry would strangle itself on its own success. The charms of coast and mountain would be destroyed if the numbers of visitors continued inexorably to rise, a phenomenon already witnessed along some of despoiled stretches of the Spanish coastline.

Neither of these perceptions is new, but it is striking to see them adopted by such a hard-headed organisation as the OECD. The report is likely to be seen as a landmark in a learning process in which economic planners are discovering how to make the necessary trade-offs between development and the environment. To make sensible judgments, they will need the help of sober, factual environmental audits of the kind the OECD has attempted. Actions should then be based as far as possible on market tools, such as pollution taxes and tradeable permits, to harness economic incentive to the protection of the environment.

The OECD has made a good start but the organisation's member governments must now take account of its findings. Environment ministers will begin this week at a meeting in Paris, precisely to ask how they intend to reconcile economic growth with environmental protection. There is nothing new here, and they might have done better to invite their finance, industry and trade ministers to come with them. But at least the OECD has done its job and passed the buck to politicians.

MOZART IMMORTAL

All over Europe the celebrations ring out. Two hundred years ago, Wolfgang Amadeus did not really die, and from Mantua to Bratislava, from Prague to London, music-lovers are rejoicing in the fact, marking his birthday yesterday with a flourish. Radio 3, so long sunk in musical elitism, rose splendidly to the occasion: a whole day of Mozart, culminating in *The Magic Flute*, his last great metaphysical opera, broadcast from Vienna. Last Friday, the English Chamber Orchestra offered up a Mozartian jewel, the rarely performed *Mitridate* under the baton of Jeffrey Tate. The opera is surely history's most astonishing work of art by a youth not yet 15 years old.

Mozart's career was a tribute to the concept of the pushy parent. By the age of five, he had started to compose clavier music. He was touring Europe at six. By the age of 14, Pope Clement XIV had awarded him the Order of the Golden Spur and he had written, directed and conducted *Mitridate*. By his death at 36, by no means *Mitridate*, he had produced more music than any other composer twice his age.

Mozart's life, too, seems to transcend his own age. While Haydn worked happily as a servant to the Esterhazy family, Mozart broke from the Archbishop of Salzburg, rebelling against being treated on a par with a butler. He became the first great freelance, for some time relying only on commissions. He shocked the establishment with *The Marriage of Figaro*, based on a Vienna farce, which was banned in Vienna for implying that servants could behave better

than their masters, and thus outwit them. Mozart died a pauper, "his fragile, burned-out body lowered into a shabby grave". Speculation that he was poisoned by an envious rival with lesser gifts — Salieri, perhaps, or Süssmayr — has long added lustre to a romantically burnished life. For years, his extraordinary precocity and the apparent mismatch of talent and lifestyle nourished the idea that his music was divinely inspired; he, a vessel through which the voice of God was heard.

Mozart was only 14 years older than Beethoven. Yet his youthful work has the glorious simplicity of classicism, only hinting at the dawning romanticism of his later years. Historians enjoy reflecting that, had Mozart lived to old age, he could have capped Beethoven's Ninth and parodied the adult Richard Wagner. He would have had no need of such mischief. Of no other composer could it be said, as by Mozart's most ardent enthusiasts, that "music began and ended with him".

Until just a few decades ago, Beethoven was widely held to be the world's greatest composer, a Rembrandt to Mozart's Vermeer. If such odious comparison is to be made, Mozart can now (like Vermeer?) be handed the laurel. Beethoven's turbulence, his endless Germanic struggle, perhaps better caught the mood of the middle of this century. Mozart's clarity, purity and perfection are preferred today. When English National Opera devoted its 1991 season to 20th century opera, an exception was made for Mozart. Like Shakespeare, Mozart is rightly cast as forever of today.

Gulf conflict a test of press restraint

From Mr Andrew Mitchell, MP for Gedling (Conservative)

Sir, How the national press covers the Gulf war may be its last chance to set its affairs in order or face legislation. I am sure that many of my colleagues will be watching with great care how the tabloids treat the families and loved ones of members of our Armed Forces deployed in the Gulf. So far I believe the press has shown the right degree of sensitivity but these are early days.

My principal concern is that the regional press should not be tarred with the same brush as the less responsible national tabloids. We are fortunate in this country to have such a varied and successful regional press. Restrictions on it because of the sins of certain national newspapers would be a serious and unwarranted diminution of press freedom.

The treatment of bereaved relatives is a good example. In contrast to the various and unforfeitable cases of harassment in the past by the worst of the national press, I know of many of my constituents who have gained strength and help in their suffering from the sympathetic and considerate coverage they received from their local paper.

I remain etc.
ANDREW MITCHELL,
House of Commons.
January 24.

From Lieutenant-Colonel T. Rigby
Sir, "Neither so good nor so bad as the first reports of excited men would have you believe". Have not these words written by Field Marshal Lord Slim in his book *Defeat into Victory* been fully borne out by the reports of the past seven days?

Yours faithfully,
T. RIGBY,
Fairfield House, Millbrook Way,
Orleton, nr Ludlow, Shropshire.
January 22.

From Dr Alec Dickson
Sir, Within hours of Dunkirk, police in Britain knocked on doors where Germans were living and told them to be ready packed in 20 minutes for transportation to the Isle of Man and, for many, subsequent internment in Ontario province. Very many months were to elapse before a senior civil servant from the Home Office was sent to Canada to interview the internees and "sort things out".

I had a young friend among them, a graduate of Kings College Cambridge, of Jewish blood, whom I had brought out of Germany to pursue his schooling here, untormented. He was a candidate for naturalisation, myself being one referee, the other, ironically, Sir Alec Paterson of the Frison Commission, who was to secure his release from internment in Canada.

War archives

From the Curator of the National Film Archive

Sir, Leonard Miall rightly draws attention (January 21) to the need to preserve television coverage of the Gulf war for the benefit of future historians.

The National Film Archive, which is part of the British Film Institute, has been formally acquiring British television programmes for preservation in the national archive since the mid-1950s. The archive currently holds a selected 25 per cent of the output of ITV and Channel 4 on a regular, daily basis, for both long-term preservation and immediate access for study purposes, an operation which is funded by the TV companies themselves.

We were recording the sports programme late on the evening of January 16 when the first news of the conflict came through. Needless to say, we kept our tapes running through the night and have since recorded all of ITN's coverage, plus related discussion and analysis programmes.

In addition, we record the entire output of both BBC channels on cassette for immediate study purposes. This operation, which is supported by the Corporation, began on August 1, 1990, the day before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. We have also managed to record several examples of coverage from Sky News, although we receive no direct financial support from British Sky Broadcasting.

Of course, the long-term preservation of this material, as Leonard Miall indicates, involves expensive optimum storage conditions as well as continuing transfer work to

ensure that it exists on a playable format. Television archives such as ours are already facing this problem with regard to the 2 in. videotape format, which dominated production in the 1960s and 1970s.

The recent Broadcasting Act, which acknowledged the need for statutory provision of a national television archive, helped to place our ITV recording operation on a secure footing. We must ensure that all the material we are acquiring can be preserved in perpetuity and made available for research.

Yours faithfully,
CLYDE MAYMONS, Curator,
National Film Archive,
British Film Institute,
21 Stephen Street, W1.
January 21.

From the Director General of the Imperial War Museum
Sir, We do not need to set up a new archive to preserve the audiovisual record of the Gulf war, but we do need to make sure that existing archives can collect and conserve this evidence. The Imperial War Museum covers all aspects of modern war and its film and photographic archive is very extensive.

The coverage of events in the Gulf will be added to this, but we do need television companies to keep us in mind and to remember the long as well as the short-term record. We also need to persuade government to finance our acquisition and preservation programme adequately.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN BORG,
Director General,
Imperial War Museum,
Lambeth Road, SE1.
January 21.

From Mr Charles J. Acred
Sir, "Wrens to be allowed to fly" (headline, January 25). Whatever next? Bees to be allowed to hum?

Yours faithfully,
C. J. ACRED,
(Clerk to the Justices),
Warrall Borough Magistrates' Court,
Chester Street,
Birkenhead, Wirral, Merseyside.
January 25.

From Mr Norman G. Trott
Sir, Mr Fletcher observes that "Perhaps Saddam Hussein is a more thorough student of military history than the allied commanders". The entry for Saddam Hussein in *Who's Who in the Arab World* states, inter alia, that he is "Master in Military Science (honour grade) with all its rights and privileges".

Yours faithfully,
N. G. TROTT,
70 Oakdene Road,
Brockham, Betchworth, Surrey.
January 23.

From Mr Stephen A. Salisbury
Sir, Mr Hallum (January 19) advocates a compulsory DNA "finger-

print" register for its value in combating violent crimes, especially towards women and children. Few would question that this is a worthy aim. However, links between violent criminals and their acts are seldom insufficient for suspects to be identified using classical methods of detection. Their subsequent confirmation or elimination from the enquiry by the powerful technique of DNA "fingerprint" comparison does not require a national register.

The real justification for the huge cost involved in such a scheme would be in developing a method for primary detection. Its use would be particularly attractive in connection with theft and numerous other at present intractable crimes, where recovery of quantities of tissue as minute as a single cell could provide the only lead.

It is here that the innocent public has most to fear from the inevitability of chance incrimination by mistakes or through the deliberate actions of the truly guilty. The administrative complexity of setting up and maintaining a comprehensive database would be formidable and should be sufficient to preserve us from this nightmare.

Adoption of the proposal would represent a momentous precedent. Its proponents should consider, in addition to the known drawbacks, likely future developments in molecular genetics and other relevant areas of science in which progress is at present rapid.

Though initially intended to contain only DNA fingerprint information, the database, once established, could be easily extended to include, for example, genetic factors relating to disease or behavioural traits deemed in future to warrant supervision in the common interest.

Yours faithfully,
S. A. SALISBURY,
11 Wimpole Road,
Great Eversden,
Cambridge.

From Mr R. H. Arnott
Sir, Would not the donation by all males of genetic material to the Home Office, for the benefit of the police, require an enormous invasion of our personal privacy?

A negative result, following an enquiry, would presumably mean that our "genetic fingerprint" had shown our innocence and imply, if the computer were flawed for possible cross-matches, that many people had unwittingly been required to prove their innocence, shifting the burden of proof — a bastion of English law.

Yours faithfully,
R. H. ARNOTT,
Rannor House, Shore Lane,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.

Use by the police of DNA profiles

From the Director of the Forensic Science Laboratory, Metropolitan Police

Sir, May I point out, in connection with your recent report (January 16) and letters (January 19), that this laboratory has been using a computer-searchable DNA database for over a year. At this stage its information is all obtained from crime cases, typically rape or murder; automatic comparison of new entries against the collection has identified over a dozen links with other crimes.

The name of a suspect may also be provided in crimes where recidivism is high, although in practice most offenders convicted with DNA evidence are still in jail and not yet able to re-offend. Nevertheless, the database has already nominated suspects on four occasions and there are consequently fewer rapists on the streets of London.

Apart from giving the courts confidence to convict, DNA profiling does protect the innocent. Its first use in crime investigation eliminated a young man who had already confessed to murder, and analysis of blood samples from suspects is giving a 30 per cent elimination rate in this laboratory. This is also a great help to the police, who can then concentrate efforts elsewhere.

Professor Slater (January 19) surely has no evidence that incompetence and a lack of integrity are more prevalent in forensic science than in other disciplines. The civil liberties arguments about DNA databases will be stronger if they stand on their merits, not weakly buttressed by casting doubt on the integrity of a whole profession. Fortunately this laboratory has never been in the firing line of criticism.

Last year this laboratory handled 270 cases of murder, manslaughter or attempts to commit those crimes; 621 rapes; 105 fatal fires, many of them arson; about 2,500 drug trafficking cases; 527 of London's most serious robberies, many involving firearms; and many thousands of other cases. Forensic scientists do have a responsibility to get things right, of course, but it is time to stop knocking them in discrimination and to give some public support for their difficult and very important contributions.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN SHEARD, Director,
Metropolitan Police
Forensic Science Laboratory,
109 Lambeth Road, SE1.
January 23.

From Mr Stephen A. Salisbury
Sir, Mr Hallum (January 19) advocates a compulsory DNA "finger-

Indonesia violations

From Lord Avebury and others

Sir, On November 17, 1990, the Indonesian military commander of Aceh, northern Sumatra, Major-General Djoko Pramono, was reported in the Jakarta weekly *Tempo* as saying:

"I have told the people here, if you meet GPK members, you should kill them. No need to investigate... Just shoot them or knife them. I have told people to arm themselves with sharp weapons, machetes or whatever. If you encounter the GPK, just kill them."

Faced with growing resistance to Indonesian rule by the Aceh Sumatra National Liberation Front, (referred to by the acronym GPK), which appears to command widespread support among the people, the Indonesian military have been on a rampage of killing, torture and arbitrary imprisonment. None of those taken into custody has appeared before a court of law, though it has been announced by the Indonesian authorities that trials of suspected GPK members will be held at Bandar Aceh, Lhokseumawe and Medan district courts in January.

A detailed report on the extensive violations of human rights in Aceh has just been published by the Washington-based *Asia Watch*, supplementing the many accounts which have reached the outside world through Reuters and the

Malaysian press over the last year, as well as the statements made by refugees. With 12,000 troops in the area, the Indonesian military are trying to extinguish the spark of separatism by a massive campaign of terror.

The UN Human Rights Commission begins its annual sitting at Geneva on January 28. Britain no longer has a place on the commission, but our observer is entitled to speak. In view of the long history of friendship between Britain and Aceh — including a treaty of "perpetual peace, friendship and defensive Alliance" in 1819 — before the territory was invaded by the Dutch in 1873, it would be fitting if we invited the commission to review the available evidence.

The commission should call on the Indonesian government to see that their own laws on arrest and detention are observed, that officers responsible for criminal offences against civilians are tried and punished, and that international human rights organisations are permitted to visit the territory.

Yours faithfully,
AVEBURY (Chairman),
BERNARD BRAINE
(Vice Chairman),

ANTHONY COOMBS (Secretary),
TONY LLOYD (Vice Chairman),
Parliamentary Human Rights Group,
Palace of Westminster,
January 18.

Help for dyslexics

From Mrs Joyce Davidson

Sir, Duncan and Vivienne Heenan are quite wrong to say (January 22) there is no other provision for dyslexics in examinations other than extra time. My two sons are both honour graduates but one is severely dyslexic. In all his public examinations at school, six years ago in Scotland, he had the services of a scribe. I doubt if he would have gained access to higher education otherwise. The only difference from the other candidates was that his certificate was asterisked to this effect.

Children cannot be expected to dictate answers without practising this skill. Perhaps the question which should be addressed is that if such a facility exists, why is it not given more publicity and why are severe dyslexics not given the opportunity of practising this skill in class examinations prior to being given this concession by the educational psychologist for public examinations?

Fife County Council educational psychologists and the staff of Marcell College, St Andrews, can only be given enormous credit for allowing this innovative approach.

Yours sincerely,
J. DAVIDSON,
Glenmore, Thames Street,
Weybridge, Surrey.
January 22.

Barefaced cheek?

From Mr David Howard

Sir, Robin MacLellan (January 15) worries about the anachronistic face of the chairman presented to shareholders in the company annual report. He should also beware the financial value of the directors with their year-on-year comparisons that treat the shrinking pound as a constant.

One major company recently reported that its earnings per share were up 8 per cent. Correcting for inflation they were down 3 per cent. Yours faithfully,
DAVID HOWARD,
Hill House, 20 Old Hill,
Chislehurst, Kent.

Well rounded

From Mr C. Cambaropoulos

Sir, On reaching 55 I am comforted by the thought that I am still roughly in the balance. What I have lost in teeth, hair and sight is more than compensated by my gain in weight and girth.

Yours faithfully,
C. CAMBAROPOULOS,
Ashcroft,
Ringmer, East Sussex.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM

January 27: Divine Service was held in Sandringham Parish Church this morning.

The Bishop of Lincoln preached the sermon.

Mr Peter Ryan (Chief Constable, the Norfolk Constabulary) was received by The Queen.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by the Lord Moore of Wolverton (Permanent Lord-in-Waiting) at the Memorial Service for Princess Elena of Roumania which was held in the Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Ennismore Gardens, London SW7, today.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

January 26: The Princess Royal this morning attended the 1991 Association of Veterinary Students' Annual Congress, St John's College, Cambridge and was received by Mr James Crowden (Vice Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire).

January 27: The Prince Edward, Patron, this evening attended the London Mozart Players' concert and dinner, celebrating Mozart's birthday in the biennial festival of his death, in St James's Palace.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer and Mrs Richard Warburton were in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE

January 27: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by Sir Maria Gilliat at the Memorial Service for Princess Elena of Roumania which was held in the Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Ennismore Gardens, today.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE

January 27: The Duchess of Kent this evening attended the Evening Standard British National Film Awards at the Savoy Hotel, London WC2.

Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent was represented by Commander Roger Walker at the Memorial Service for Princess Elena of Roumania which was held in the Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Ennismore Gardens, London SW7, today.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

January 27: Princess Alexandra was represented by Major Peter Clarke at the Memorial Service for Princess Elena of Roumania which was held in the Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Ennismore Gardens, London SW7, today.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.M.J. Barrington and Miss K.A. Hibbard

The engagement is announced between Dominic, only son of Mr and Mrs Donald Barrington, of Richmond, Surrey, and Alison, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Williams, of Bournemouth, Dorset.

Mr N.J. Capstick-Dale and The Hon Natasha Rayne

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr J.R. Capstick-Dale, of London, and of Mrs Shoshana Capstick-Dale, of Bristol, and Natasha, elder daughter of Lord and Lady Rayne, of London.

Mr R.D. Ellis and Miss N.J. Sissant

The engagement is announced between Richard, second son of Mr and Mrs Arnold Ellis, of Shrewsbury, and Nicola, third daughter of Major-General and Mrs Martin Sissant, of Standford, Hampshire.

Mr E.J. Lucas and Miss V.H. Sissant

The engagement is announced between Rodney, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Lucas, of Ashley Heath, Ringwood, and Victoria, fourth daughter of Major-General and Mrs Martin Sissant, of Standford, Hampshire.

Mr P.S. Gibson and Miss E.C. Nicholson

The engagement is announced between Paul, only son of Mr and Mrs W.B. Gibson, of Bangor, Co Down, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.R.V. Nicholson, of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mr R.P. Goodall and Miss C.E. Calvert

The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Mr and Mrs Goodall, of Winthorpe, Nottinghamshire, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.R. Calvert, of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.

Mr D.F. Hamilton and Miss E.C. Clark

The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr B. Hamilton, of Auburn, California, and Mrs A. Kehoe, of Brighton, Sussex, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. Clark, of Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

Mr D.A. Holmes and Miss D.M.C. Clarkson

The engagement is announced between David Allan, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. Holmes, of Bushmore, Craven Arms, Shropshire, and Derran Michelle Christina, only daughter of Commander T.C. Clarkson, OBE, of Bressingham, Pott, Hastings, Sussex, and Mrs Jean Clarkson.

Mr S.A.W. Leach and Miss M.J. Tidy

The engagement is announced between Stuart, son of Mr Clive Leach, of Burton Ash, Yorkshire, and the late Audrey Leach, and Michele, daughter of Mr Jean Tidy and the late Anthony Tidy, of Clifton, Bristol.

Dinners

Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators

The annual dinner of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators was held on Saturday at the Portman Inter-Continental Hotel. Mrs Jean Denton was the guest speaker and Miss Eileen Ross, president of the society, and Mr D.H. Kirkham, president of the institute, also spoke.

To the Judge Advocate General

Mr J. Stuart-Smith, CB, QC, Judge Advocate General of the Forces since 1984, was the guest of honour at a dinner given by present and former judicial officers at the Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, London, on January 25, 1991, on the occasion of his forthcoming retirement.

King Olav V of Norway

A memorial service in Norwegian for King Olav V of Norway will be held on Wednesday, January 30, at 2.00 pm, at the Norwegian Church, 1 St Olav's Square, Albion Street, Rotherhithe, SE16.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Henry VII reigned 1485-1509. Pembroke Castle, 1457: Charles George Gordon, general, London, 1833: Sir Henry Stanley, explorer, Denbigh, 1841: José Martí, poet and Cuban nationalist, Havana, 1853: Colette, writer, Saint-Sauveur-en-Puisaye, 1873: Arthur Rubinstein, pianist, Warsaw, 1887.

DEATHS: Charlemagne, Holy Roman Emperor, 814: Henry VIII, reigned 1509-47, London, 1547: Sir Francis Drake, at sea, off Panama, 1596: Sir Thomas Bodley, diplomat, founder of the Oxford library bearing his name, London, 1612/13: Peter the Great, tsar of Russia 1682-1725, St Petersburg (Leningrad), 1725.

Service dinner

100 (Yeomanry) Field Regiment

The officers of 100 (Yeomanry) Field Regiment Royal Artillery (V) held a dinner at Woolwich Garrison Officers' Mess on Saturday, January 26, 1991. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. E. F. Morris, RA (V), presided and the Honorary Colonel, General Sir Richard Vincent, GBE, KCB, DSO, attended.

OBITUARIES

WALTER TERRY

Walter Frederick Terry, who was political editor in turn of the Daily Mail, the Daily Express and The Sun, died suddenly at his Newhaven home on January 25 aged 66. He was born on August 18, 1924.

WALTER Terry was one of the outstanding political journalists throughout the Macmillan and Wilson years. His insight and sources made him the equal of such formidable contemporaries as the late David Wood of *The Times* and Derek Marks of the *Daily Express* and at times he led the entire field. His contacts reached up to Cabinet ministers in both Conservative and Labour administrations and at one point during the Wilson premiership they included the prime minister.

His most famous triumph came when he forecast the Macmillan reshuffle in 1962 two days before it was announced. Macmillan sacked one third of his Cabinet in a day and Terry had the news to himself. It is still unknown whether Rab Butler leaked the news to the second Lord Rothermere on the unspoken understanding that it would be passed to Terry or whether Terry received the information directly from Butler. Whatever the route taken by the news it earned Terry the title of Journalist of the Year in the 1963 National Press Awards.

There were other years, too, when Terry had good claim to the title. He forecast that Lord Home would succeed Macmillan as prime minister when his Fleet Street rivals remained committed to Butler or even Hogg; and in 1967 he was ahead again when Wilson devalued the pound. The devaluation story was not obtained from direct information but came as a result of putting together a number of clues. The most significant of these was that Marcia Williams, now Lady Falkender and then personal and political secretary to Harold Wil-

son, refused to speak to him throughout the pre-devaluation week. Terry concluded that the only explanation for this was that she possessed such important information that she was afraid to have even the slightest of contact in case she should be suspected of being the source of any story he might write.

Terry had good reason to understand when Marcia Williams would not speak to him for at that time they were on the closest possible terms. She was the mother of his two sons born in the late 1960s. For a time it seemed that he might marry her but he became reconciled with his wife and his association with Lady Falkender ceased.

Terry was born in Derbyshire and took what was then the traditional route to Fleet Street by progressing from a local newspaper to a regional evening paper before serving a Manchester apprenticeship to a national daily. In Terry's case he began on the *Glossop Chronicle*, moved to the nearby *Derby Evening Telegraph*, had a spell on the *Nottingham Journal* and was then accepted as a general reporter in the *Daily Mail's* Manchester office. His potential was recognised and by 1955 he had been moved to London and was already operating in the Commons. In 1959, when Macmillan won his general election, Terry became political editor.

His string of exclusives included the Soviet attempt to ruin Tory MP Commander Anthony Courtney through a sex scandal and Wilson's Vietnam peace initiative - stories almost forgotten now but big news at the time. Prime ministers rose and fell but Terry's contacts on both sides of the House meant that his career was unaffected. As the political editor of the conservative *Tory Daily Mail* it might have been thought that he was a Conservative at heart. As Wilson's favourite reporter he might have been accused of Labour's sym-



pathies. The truth is that Terry was neither Tory nor Labour. His private conversations revealed him as deeply cynical about every party and all politicians.

With his private life in disarray Terry was sent to the United States in 1969 as the *Mail's* Washington correspondent but he soon returned to London as deputy editor. There was a reorganisation when the paper became a tabloid and Terry was reassigned to his old beat as political editor. In 1973, however, he was made a particularly tempting offer to switch papers and became political editor of the *Daily Express*. The *Express* was not a particularly stable paper in those days and Terry was a victim of changes. By 1975 he had left the paper but was soon picked up by *The Sun* and was promoted to political editor in 1978. This was not a happy

move. He never had even the slightest sympathy with the paper's general style and when Kelvin MacKenzie was appointed editor his relations with his office rapidly became much worse. He was fired in 1983. A bad end to a fine career and one which drew protests from his *Sun* colleagues.

Terry was briefly on the payroll of *Today* during its Eddie Shah days but this period was so short that it hardly constituted an association. The fact is that he was never a commanding figure after the early 1970s and the complexities of his private life undoubtedly contributed to his decline.

He was married in 1950 to Mavis Landon, by whom he had a son and a daughter and another son who died in childhood. He is also survived by the two sons of Lady Falkender.

BRIAN JEFFERY



Brian Peter Jeffery, MVO, former principal protection officer to the Duke of Edinburgh and deputy Queen's police officer died on January 24 aged 36. He was born on October 4, 1934.

BRIAN Jeffery was for 10 years personal detective to the Duke of Edinburgh and is remembered in the royal household as a police officer of outstanding ability able to operate at all levels of society.

Educated at Tiffin's Boys' school, Kingston upon Thames, he served with the Royal Engineers in Hong Kong and was a member of the British Army boxing team. In 1956 he joined the Metropolitan Police as a constable and by 1974 was a detective inspector in west London. That year a royal car carrying the then Princess Anne was attacked in the Mall: in the aftermath, royal security was considerably increased and Jeffery was one of the officers

chosen by Scotland Yard to join the royal protection group. His time in royal protection was largely spent as personal police officer to the duke, a role in which he excelled. His uncompromising

attitude in matters of security often created tension with other security services but it resulted in his long tenure in an extremely demanding post. He was just as much at ease with a royal shooting party at Balmoral, at sea on the royal yacht Britannia, or at a state banquet at Buckingham Palace, appropriately dressed, never appearing to be a policeman on duty. In 1980 he was selected to accompany the Queen on her historic visit to the Vatican.

In Jeffery, the duke is said to have found not only an extremely loyal and effective policeman, but also a man of considerable intellect whose companionship made the duke's arduous official journeys more bearable. In 1985 he accompanied the Duke of Edinburgh on a tour for the then World Wildlife Fund when they covered 17,458 miles in 23 days.

Jeffery also shared the royal family's fondness for animals and

made one of the Queen's dogs, a lovable but uncontrollable spaniel called Meddler, his particular favourite. Meddler when taken on a shoot would gleefully ignore all whistles and entreaties from her handler. Jeffery, however, recognised talent when he saw it, and took the dog in hand. The results were spectacular, for as he whistled, Meddler dutifully turned, and Jeffery had soon built a reputation for his ability to handle her. However, he later disclosed that before taking the dog in hand, he had observed her in action and, by judicious timing, created the impression that she was turning in response to his whistling. He was delighted when the Queen gave him one of Meddler's puppies.

In 1983, the Queen granted Jeffery a private audience and invested him as a member of the Royal Victorian Order. From 1983 to 1986, when he retired from the

royalty protection group with the rank of superintendent, he served as deputy Queen's police officer. However, his retirement was illusory, for he immediately accepted the post of UK security adviser to Baron Thyssen and to the international Thyssen-Bornemisza Group.

In 1986 he was invited by Business Risks International, the leading American International Security Group, to combine his work for Baron Thyssen with theirs, and he became head of their European office in London.

His death from cancer is a loss which will be felt by many, for he had a talent for making friends and, more uniquely, for never forgetting them.

He is survived by his wife Maureen, who had borne his frequent absences and the erratic demands of royal duty with fortitude, and by his son Neil and daughter Nicola.

NIKOLAI TALYZIN

Nikolai Talyzin, the former head of USSR Gosplan and a candidate member of the Politburo, died on January 23 aged 61. He was born in Moscow on January 28, 1929.

NIKOLAI Talyzin, like so many Soviet leaders an engineer by training, first became prominent in Kremlin politics in 1985 when he succeeded Nikolai Baibakov as the chairman of Gosplan, the USSR's state planning committee. Baibakov had held the post for 20 years and given Gosplan a reputation for hostility towards any kind of market-orientated reform. As such he was clearly out of tune with the objectives of the Gorbachev leadership, and Talyzin replaced him within seven months of Gorbachev's accession to the party leadership. He joined the Politburo at the same time.

Talyzin had worked since 1965 in the USSR Ministry of Communications, latterly as minister (1975-1980). In 1980 he moved to become a first deputy prime minister and the USSR's permanent representative in Comecon. In this capacity he came regularly into contact with Nikolai Ryzhkov, at that time head of the Communist Party's important economic department, and it was apparently with Ryzhkov's support that Talyzin moved to head the Soviet planning apparatus in 1985 (Ryzhkov became prime minister at the same time).

Soviet planners, like football managers, tend to be judged by their results, and Talyzin's were not impressive. In 1987, the last full year of his stewardship, national income increased by 3.3 per cent, below the target that had been planned. Industrial output increased by 3.8 per cent, less than the 4.4 per cent target, and agricultural output went up by only 1.8 per cent. Talyzin lost his post within two weeks of the announcement of these results, in February 1988, becoming a first deputy prime minister and once again the USSR's representative in Comecon.

Not simply was his a poor record: Talyzin was also out of sympathy with the more radical course of economic reform that was launched in the

summer of 1987, when a central committee plenum approved a set of guidelines to this effect. Talyzin himself came under direct attack by Gorbachev at the plenum when he was identified as one of those responsible for the difficulties the economy had encountered earlier in the year. Gorbachev, it emerged, had a rather different conception of the role of Gosplan, under which it should confine itself to long-term guidance and not intervene in day to day management. Talyzin's proposals for the 1988 plan, introduced in October 1987, showed little awareness of the need for such changes, and he lost his position as a result.

Talyzin graduated from the Moscow Electrical Engineering Institute in 1955 and joined the Communist Party in 1960. He became a candidate member of the central committee in 1976 and a full member in 1981, and joined the Politburo as a candidate member in October 1985. His period of prominence was relatively brief, already something of a "yesday's man" after being replaced at Gosplan, he lost his Politburo membership in September 1989 and in the same year retired from his Comecon post.

Talyzin did not enjoy a reputation for competence or (still less) innovation among Soviet economists. In the end, however, his career was a casualty of the disappointing results of the economy under his management, and of the increasing degree of consensus that it was the market rather than Gosplan that offered the best chance of a recovery.

JOHN ROSENBERG

Joan Ackland writes:

JOHN Rosenberg (Obituary, January 22) not only was responsible for giving Anglia Television a strong image over the last decades, he was a truly understanding gentleman, of anyone who was invited to work for Anglia knew that there would be treated with courtesy and respect. His passing will leave a gap that can never be filled.

Basil Hume

Reflections on the morality not just of war, but of peace

THE outbreak of hostilities in the Gulf has shifted the focus, at least temporarily, away from the rights and wrongs of going to war and on to its conduct and consequences.

The fear now is that the conflict will escalate into a human and environmental disaster out of all proportion to the limited objective of ousting Saddam Hussein from Kuwait. I share that fear. And for this reason we must not overlook any opportunity which occurs at any stage of the conflict to reopen doorways to a just peace.

As a Catholic I am mindful of the stern words of the fathers of the Second Vatican Council in condemning certain forms of conduct in war. They stated: "All warfare which tends to the destruction of entire cities or wide areas with their inhabitants is a crime against God and man to be firmly and unhesitatingly condemned". The efforts of political and military leaders to make the initial air offensive clinical and apparently selective are evidence of their moral concern, although we cannot yet know how effective these efforts will prove to have been.

The war in the Gulf, however necessary, constitutes a tragic failure. It is all the more painful because many had thought that the liberation of eastern Europe and the end of the cold war heralded a new era of world peace. It is, I believe, essential at this time not only to reflect on the morality of war, but also on the morality of peace. In Christian terms this calls for a radical change of heart which clearly covers many aspects of our personal and individual lives. But it determines too our conduct towards each other. This in turn will influence public policy.

There must be, in all circumstances, the most scrupulous regard for human

rights, dignity and freedom. Society needs to reaffirm the uniqueness of human nature and of each person. Christians have based their respect for individuals on the belief that we are each made in the image and likeness of God, and must be treated accordingly as His beloved sons and daughters. Sadly there are too many examples both past and present in which these high moral concepts of human dignity have been contradicted by inhumane behaviour.

Respect for every individual, as a fundamental principle determining human conduct, has to be achieved in an international context of upholding the integrity of states within the world community. The nature and complexity of international relations is such that it is easy to be unrealistic about what is achievable. Nonetheless, the moral dimension of such relations should never be ignored.

There is a tendency to assume that the principles of morality which apply to the actions of individuals and local communities somehow cease to apply at international level. Here the prevailing consideration is too often that of economic self interest and national security. And yet this orthodoxy has repeatedly failed, even on its own terms, as the conflict in the Gulf tragically demonstrates.

Western countries are surely right to have uneasy consciences over, for instance, their response to Iraqi uses of chemical weapons in recent years. And no one can ignore the effect which the arms trade has had in contributing to the present crisis in the Gulf.

Balance and coherence in public policy will be better achieved if there is an even handed approach to issues of aggression and repression. There should always be a moral component in our public policies

to provide them with consistency and a sense of purpose.

The best hope for a lasting peace is surely the patient building up of a freely chosen international authority as a way of expressing and sustaining the mutual interdependence of nations. In our world community and because of our shared interests we urgently need to support and develop such a body.

Recently the United Nations has begun to look as if it might grow into the role of such a stable international authority which can effectively maintain international peace and be guided by the moral concern for justice. And, of course, the United Nations will face one of its most difficult and important challenges yet in attempting to create a comprehensive and just solution in the Middle East after the Gulf War is over.

We all live with the tension between what is and what should be. We know it first of all and most profoundly within ourselves. But we also know it of our world. It is a tension which I believe is incapable of ultimate resolution. Yet for Christians the vision of peace and love which the Gospel proclaims provides a constant inspiration for their endeavours.

There are some, however, who imagine that tragedy and war mean that God has abandoned His world. But God continues to pour out life and blessing and promise on all He has made. It is frightening to reflect that time and again human beings have abused God's gifts. If we misuse His gifts it seems perverse to shake a fist at Him who has in fact provided us with all the elements for peaceful and intelligent solutions. The fault lies at our door, not His.

The writer is Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster.

Memorial services

Princess Elena of Romania

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Lord Moore of Wolverton at a memorial service for Princess Elena of Romania held yesterday in the Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Ennismore Gardens. Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat.

King Michael and Queen Anne of Romania and Princess Margaria of Romania were present. The Duke of Kent was represented by Commander Roger Walker and Princess Alexandra by Major Peter Clark.

Metropolitan Anthony of Southwark was the principal celebrant, assisted by Bishop Anatoly of Kerch and other members of the cathedral clergy.

His Honour Michael Lavington The Lord Chancellor was represented by Mr John Arden, Courts Administrator, Plymouth, at a memorial service for His Honour Michael Lavington held on Saturday at St Andrew's, Plymouth.

The Rev Dr Anhur Yates officiated. Mr Peregrine Lavington, son, and Judge Graham Neville read the lessons and His Honour Sir Peter Bristow gave an address.

Heather beetle threatens moor

An insect infestation is threatening the carpet of purple mantle heather that covers Exmoor in north Devon each August.

Ecologists say the heather beetle (*Lochmaea suturalis*) has caused widespread damage to the moor. The infestation is blamed on a succession of mild winters and hot summers which have accelerated breeding.

Duty calls on the home front

An army of women is mobilising in Britain to support servicemen

They are not actually knitting lightweight socks for our boys in the Gulf (although that may well come), but women throughout the country are certainly rooting for the allies through a surge of diverse war efforts.

Women's organisations, from the Women's Royal Voluntary Service (WRVS) to Soroptomists International, are on red alert. Carol Mayers is spearheading — without pay — the emergency section of the WRVS in London. Anticipating the arrival of casualties, she has set up a scheme to pick up families from stations and drive them to hospital to visit their relatives. "We have also been given space in hospitals throughout the country in which to set up canteens, so wives can talk to their husbands without the children running round the ward," she says.

The WRVS, with 160,000 members, has the stamp of approval from the defence ministry, which contacted Mrs Mayers last August to see how her organisation could help. "My first reaction when the MoD contacted me was 'Thank goodness we've trained everyone already,'" Mrs Mayers says. "But we are also taking on untrained women who are not members, but ring up asking what they can do. They'll be jolly useful in mending our usual services, like meals on wheels, so we can concentrate on the war."

Such camaraderie is also to be found at Rotary International and its women's section, the Inner Wheel. The Midlands branches have launched an appeal for items needed by troops in sandy trenches: skin protection cream and oil; insect repellent; cotton boxer shorts and socks; shaving soap; toothpaste and paperback books. Aldershot members, on the doorstep of a large military base, are offering accommodation to soldiers' families travelling from afar. A nationwide call for more fund-raising ventures has also been made, as has an appeal for blood donors.



Echoes of war: Women's Volunteer Service members make sure the coffee keeps flowing in London in 1941

Soroptomists International of Great Britain and Ireland, the organisation for business and professional women, which has 16,000 members, has been standing by since the threat of war first loomed. "We've been liaising with hospitals to offer help with staffing and ambulance driving," says Ailsa Stanley, the press officer. "Our members include doctors and nurses, so there's a lot we can do."

Ms Stanley, like others involved in the war effort, denies that this is an exciting time. "We're all very worried, but we are also willing to meet a challenge. We did the same in the second world war, when our region set up a canteen in Nottingham for soldiers. Even now, whenever we're visible at a public event, we still get some old chap wandering up and saying 'I remember you'."

Britain's craving for a cuppa in times of stress has led the Salvation Army to send four men, with mobile canteens, to the Gulf. Perhaps these light touches are needed as a contrast to the more grisly war efforts being co-ordinated back home. "One airport has already asked us to man a mortuary," says Captain Charles King, the director of media relations for the organisation. "Many of our 60,000 volunteers will be at airports to meet the wounded and organise refreshments, transport, accommodation and childcare services for relatives."

Individuals such as Helen Baines are also doing their bit. She has contacted her local hospital in London offering accommodation in her Putney home to visiting relatives. "My father-in-law is also helping the St John Ambulance Brigade in Gloucester to prepare for casualties," Mrs Baines says. "We all want to do something. It's only human instinct to help."

JANE BIDDER
WRVS (071-416 0146), Rotary International (0789 765 411) and Soroptomists International (0602 875 248).

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Expert witnesses of warfare



A fiction more glamorous than fact: Peter Sellers (right) as the American president in *Dr Strangelove*, on a set that epitomises the Hollywood view of a Pentagon war room

The staff of the University of London's war studies department are seeing more television studios than lecture halls. Sean French reports

Dr Philip Sabin has the air of a cloistered academic and his office looks like a hundred other lecturers' rooms in the University of London. However, he seems slightly harassed after a television appearance earlier in the day. He had been on television the previous day, and probably would be again the following day.

Along the corridor, Dr Efraim Karsh is seated at his word processor, putting the final touches to his biography of Saddam Hussein, hampered only by problems with the last chapter and constant telephone calls from the media. Much the same could be said of the rest of their colleagues in the Department of War Studies at King's College.

Information about the Gulf conflict is painstakingly husbanded by the American forces, while Britain's defence ministry holds non-attributable briefings with nothing to attribute. Comment has become the principal commodity, and no television report on the war is without its sprinkling of academics.

The department occupies a prominent place in the contacts book of every news and current affairs television researcher. It is one of the ironies of British media coverage that the vacuum created by MoD silence is filled by comment from an MoD-funded lecturer such as Dr Sabin or, perhaps, a member of staff of the MoD-funded Centre for Defence Studies (CDS), also attached to King's College.

The way of life of the department changes during wartime, and so

does its subject. Every member of the department says this was largely a matter of applying principles that had already been established to developing events. As Professor Lawrence Freedman complained, with some exasperation, about the level of discussion in the media: "You'd think no one had ever bombed airfields before." But the tutorial I attended given by Dr Barrie Paskins, the philosopher, as part of his "Ethical Aspects of War" course, concerned George Bush's initiation of hostilities; Dr Karsh's Middle East course now begins in 1991 and works backwards; and Dr Sabin's "Technology and Military Affairs" is affected by the day-to-day performance of missiles and aircraft.

They are also in demand to supply comment on dubious information, or to make predictions that are little more than guesses. Or, as Dr Sabin jocularly put it: "Experts are always saying different things, so they're bound to be right."

An informally agreed part of his MoD sponsorship is that he should be an informed spokesman on military affairs, but this does not mean putting forward the MoD's point of view. Dr Paskins not only looks like a supporter of unilateral nuclear disarmament, with his bushy beard and baggy sweater, but he argued for it while holding an MoD-funded lectureship.



Barrie Paskins: battle philosopher

The war studies staff is generally stoical about having to forswear scholarly rigour while pronouncing on the war from day to day. At least, it is repeatedly argued, they can bring their knowledge of the background to bear. "The one unforgivable thing is a historical assertion," says Dr Michael Clark, the director of the CDS. They find no ethical problem in making strategic predictions in public, only taking care not

to reveal secrets that they may have picked up from military contacts.

The main conflicts admitted to were more personal. The day I met him, Dr Sabin had appeared on *The Time, The Place*, the daytime television chat show, along with the relatives of RAF crews. He said he had wanted to say that they would be likely to hear of casualties in a way that relatives of ground troops would not: "Lost planes are individually identified, but lost tanks are not." Then he realised he would be talking hypothetically about real suffering, and remained silent.

Dr Karsh talks at high speed and with immense confidence about the inevitable fall of Saddam, and admits that the conflict is far from a detached academic subject for him. His parents live in Tel Aviv.

About 20 per cent of the graduates studying in the department have some direct military connection, generally from abroad, although some alumni are serving at high rank in the Gulf. I had expected a militaristic atmosphere but, in reality, the staff is a curious mixture. Professor Brian Bond could fairly be described as a conservative, but Dr Wolf Mendel, the longest-serving member of the department, is a Quaker pacifist.

The department began in the Sixties, as little more than a couple of research students working with Michael Howard, the celebrated

military historian. The nature of the subject has mutated almost from year to year, as fashions have changed. Professor Bond recalls the post-Guevara days when everyone wanted to study guerrilla warfare. A few years ago Dr Paskins's ethics classes were virtually devoted to deterrence, which now seems almost forgotten. Professor Freedman has observed that space weaponry, a specialist subject of his, is right off the agenda. The modish subject is now the technology of war.

The war studies men speak cheerfully about their busy public role. Dr Sabin listens to the radio in order to glean the information he needs in order to talk on the radio himself, and tells the story of an American military expert who predicted there would be no bombing in Vietnam on the day before bombing actually started.

The following day the same expert was brought in once more to comment on the bombing, as the television producer told him that no one would remember what he had said the previous day.

Shortly before delivering a public lecture on "The Use and Misuse of Military History", Professor Bond told me that events were certain to increase the number and quality of applications for the department's Bachelor of Arts course, which begins next year. However, he arrived in an almost empty lecture hall: "The rest must be at home getting it live on television," he said.

One woman's memories of another conflict, 50 years on

Dancing in the dark

"WAR?" said my mother. "You are talking to a woman who has had her stockings round an airman's neck." She was not, she explained, wearing them at the time. They were a good luck token, albeit a futile one. "All the young men in my office at the county council joined up, and one after another they died. All those rear-gunners, all those boys who used to trap me on the backstairs of the council offices at the Old Judge's Lodgings in Nottingham, all gone. I still think of them."

Listening to one's mother's wartime reminiscences has taken on a new interest this past week. The differences, geographic and political, are glaringly obvious, but for the first time it is possible for this generation of civilians to feel a bat's squeak of identification across half a century. The Falklands conflict was alien: a strange event, half a world away, concerning tiny islands. This time, as in 1939, reservists are being called up, hospitals put on standby, and national leaders adopting the stoical rhetoric of war. Again, all the talk is of a job to be done, the long time it may take, and the new world order that must emerge at the end.

So I listened, thinking it worth recording the resonances of one young civilian woman's life at the onset of a greater and more uncertain war. Mary, known as Peggy, Tinsley later married my father, Grant Purves, and became a diplomat's wife: certain ironies of life resulted. "Nottingham," she says, "was the centre of the Polish air training schools, so I began my girlfriend dancing life in the Polish officers' mess. When your dad was posted to Hamburg 40 years later, I ended up

being clutched to the clanking, medalled bosoms of former U-boat commanders."

The presence of those gay young Polish officers around the town, and of Austrian Jewish refugees in a friend's family, contributed greatly to a sense of certainty and justice about the war. "To this day I cannot bear to watch *Allo, Allo!*, it is so offensive. The whole issue felt far more real to us than this lot now."

The trivia of life come back vividly. "The day war was declared we all said: 'Thank

'News was censored, but there was a great sense of solidarity'

goodness, now we can see *The Great Dictator*, with Charlie Chaplin". It was a marvellous film, a send-up of Hitler, and it had been banned in Britain so as not to offend him. After Munich, she had done her civil defence training. "The points of mustard gas: persistence, insidious, stability... can't remember the rest, but the mnemonic was 'Piss Up RDC' — rural district council, you see?" Turned down for the Women's Auxiliary Air Force on medical grounds, she went into civil defence and later moved on to work as an air ministry civilian. "I put little pins on maps about unexploded bombs."

Meanwhile, nobody's life was the same. "We all had

people out there. My brother was in the Territorial Army and was called up, so his wife and baby came to live with us. There was no way that anybody could ignore the war, not with the blackout. My father tried to ignore it by refusing to have his headlamps changed to give us the pinhole light, so I always had to get home before lighting-up time."

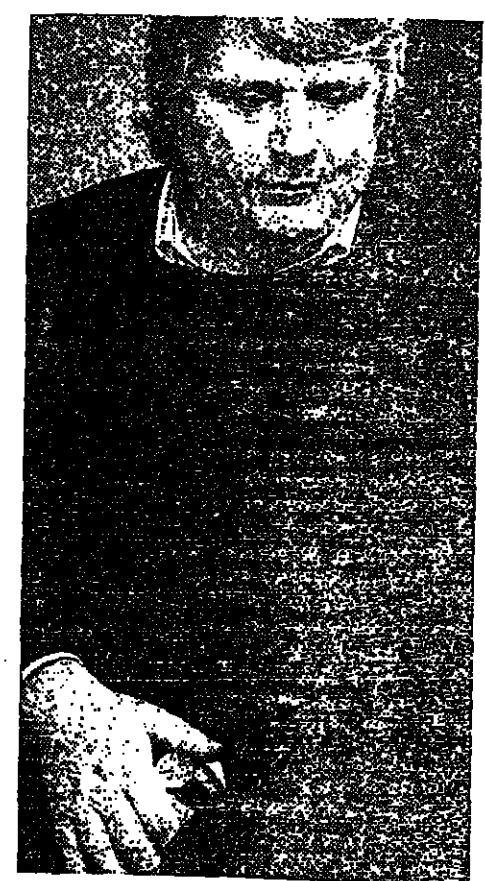
Listening to an evocation of 1939, one of the most notable differences is the balance between talk and action. That generation had comparatively little war news, but plenty of civilian tasks were demanded: blacking-out and digging, recycling and knitting. Our generation has a constant stream of information, but few practical tasks to dispel anxiety and symbolic concern. She sees the shortage of news coverage 50 years ago as an unmixed blessing.

"We had very little news, thank God. The nine o'clock on the radio was all we got, otherwise it was *Itma* and Reginald Dixon. We weren't tormented with seamless news and speculation as we are now. And I think we took it more seriously. Now the whole thing has become like watching a football match." The torrent of news, she feels, is part of the reason why a sense of stress and lassitude already surrounds the subject of the Gulf war. It is not a sense she remembers from 1939.

"What I remember most is the Churchill speeches. After them you felt that you wanted to... well, to go forth. We knew that news was censored, but there was a coalition cabinet and a great sense of solidarity. Oh yes, we knew why we were fighting."

LIBBY PURVES

THE BATTLE OF CULLODEN



A 'schools in chaos' drama or 'fly on the wall' documentary?

Andrew Bathell, producer of the primary school TV series, talks to the TES.

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Linear supremacy simply displayed

Chinese ceramics spanning 6,500 years make a dazzling show, reviewed by Joseph Connolly

Chinese ceramics began to be widely exported during the 9th century, and since that time their simple utilitarianism, unrivalled purity of line, colouring and supreme technical quality have ensured that their international reputation has remained undiminished. A new exhibition of Chinese pottery and porcelain at the British Museum presents not just the range of functional and ritual items from prehistory to the present day, but also works of art produced over the centuries. There are rich variations in form and glaze, not merely when the collection is seen as a whole, but even within the boundaries of each successive dynasty.

The exhibition's purpose is to make clear the status of Chinese ceramics (whether functional, decorative or religious) and to trace the history of the earliest stoneware from several millennia BC until the 11th century AD, when the discovery and later exploitation of South China's enormous porcelain stone deposits led to the eventual supremacy of porcelain over stoneware, and ultimately to the greatest glories of dynastic art. For this reason, the layout of the exhibition is chronological, with one main wall forming a single brilliantly lit glass case devoted to stoneware, while a selection of porcelain stands opposite.

The earliest examples demonstrate a grace that owes nothing to technical sophistication or applied decoration, though very much to the sheer dexterity of a rural potter. An earthenware amphora and bowl of 4,500 BC stand stark and simple, their matt-orange terracotta colour glowing strikingly bright, and their undecorated beauty far exceeding the bounds that mere function demands. Also arresting is a small earthenware three-legged pot (called a *Li*) dating from the 10th century BC, notable for a trio of applied flanges in imitation of those on earlier bronze vessels of similar pattern.

Increased awareness of flowing beauty combined with strength becomes evident in the lines of a waisted black earthenware jar with two sweeping bow handles: this fine example from the Western Han dynasty (2nd to 1st century BC) is a clever and suitable bridge between the prehistoric periods and the noble and highly decorative objects of the Tang dynasty nearly 1,000 years later. Superb examples are set harmoniously alongside.

An excellent bottle vase and a lidded jar from the first half of the 8th century AD are vividly decorated with the glazes called *Sancai* — this term literally means "three

colours", and refers to the green, amber and cream glazes perhaps most readily associated with the Tang dynasty. A doleful-looking hollow and crop-tailed horse of the period seems all the more special in juxtaposition, for here the glaze is a highly unusual deep cobalt blue.

The Song dynasty (10th-13th century) has long been regarded as the "classical period" — the culmination of the ceramicist's art — wherein an almost chilling restraint is somehow combined with sensuousness to form a pleasing result. Amid the breathtaking purity of the whiteware — which refined, to the point of perfection, the elegance of the long-necked vessels in the preceding Liao dynasty — there are examples of fine coloured glazes. They range from duck-egg blue and weathered copper to the quite startling and iridescent cornflower and purple of Jun ware bowls and salvers. With the Yuan dynasty (14th century) the forms become more substantial and the ruddy-pink glazes more boisterous. These afford an easy transition to the effortless and consummate style of Ming: the shapes are now over-familiar and a result of centuries of imitation, though the original blue-and-white glazes still sing out as clearly as ever.

A slight falling-off at this point is inevitable: the "famille verte" and "famille rose" decoration of the mid-Qing dynasty (early 18th century) can seem merely pretty after the dynamism of the foregoing. And a small vase made just last year — although wonderfully fine and light, with decoration and glazing to match — lacks substance in a way that the best examples of Song never could.

Separate display cases are devoted to Imperial taste and ceremonial wares, and Export porcelain is prominently displayed at the entrance to the exhibition. That clearly demonstrates the disparate tastes of China's principal customers: the Middle East, south-east Asia, Japan and Europe. The whole is presided over by a magnificent five-foot stoneware "Disciple of Buddha", with *Sancai*-type glazes from the Liao dynasty. Although the banding on the yellow robe represents patchwork traditionally worn by monks as a sign of humility, this particular postulant seems not remotely humble, but rather proud and certainly disapproving.

Chinese Pottery and Porcelain: From Prehistory to the Present is at the British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 until August 18.

CINEMA

Next month, after some 15 years of restoration by the National Film Archive, a unique collection of films by the earliest movie-makers, originally amassed by a Swiss Jesuit priest, will be returned to view. David Robinson has the full story

On February 14, the National Film Archive finally unveils a treasure trove acquired more than 15 years ago. The story began in 1974 when a young English film maker, David Mingay, seeking material for a television series on the beginnings of the cinema, received a very unlikely tip-off. He was advised to contact a Catholic pedagogical organisation, the Borromäum, in Basle.

The director of the Borromäum, Dr Stefan Bamberger, told him that there was indeed a collection of films, but that no new ones had been added to it since 1911. He led Mingay into a cellar, approached directly from the gardens of a villa through a simple wooden door.

Inside were shelves upon shelves of films: a total of about 1,500. Among the labels on the aged cans, the bemused Mingay recognised titles of films that the history books had long declared were lost for ever. They included the largest single collection of films from the first decade of the century that had ever come to light. It was the cinema's equivalent to Tutankhamun's tomb.

The hoard, it appeared, was due to the vision of an extraordinary 19th-century Swiss Jesuit priest, Abbé Joseph Joye. Born in 1852, in 1886 he was appointed vicar in Basle, with special responsibility for education. He helped establish the Borromäum, where he organised Sunday schools, adult education courses and a series of popular science lectures. A pioneer of audio-visual methods of education, he made use of the magic lantern as a teaching aid. He acquired a phonograph, and was able to announce with pride (as his pupils still recalled years later), "Children, you will now hear the last words of Pope Leo XII, spoken in his death agony!" In 1901 he added a film projector to his educational armoury — thus becoming Switzerland's first regular film showman, as well as the world's first film collector and archivist.

The Abbé's educational methods were remarkably enlightened. He in no way restricted his shows to religious or moral films. Happily for posterity he reckoned that any visual impressions — even melodramas, thrillers, Westerns

or slapstick comedies — could, with a little ingenuity, be turned to the Lord's service.

Not that he lost sight of his moral responsibilities. He would snip out any indecencies, such as lingering embraces, in a film, he had other ways to protect his flock. They recalled how, at the strategic moment, the Abbé's voice would boom out, "What are you doing there — you in the back row, boy!", whereupon all eyes were infallibly distracted from the screen.

Joye, with very limited funds, must have begged his films or bought them second-hand, so that many were already old by the time he acquired them. Thus the collection includes a film from the Lumière Brothers' first show of 1895, *Arrival of a Train*. There are still legends of the Abbé's collecting exploits, even, it is said, smuggling films across the border hidden about his ample form, beneath the disarming cover of his cassock.

Joye's film collecting came to an end in 1911, when he was called to Germany. An old manuscript catalogue shows that he had amassed some 2,000 films. He died in 1919.

By the time that Mingay came upon it, the collection had lain for more than 60 years, and was a source of anxiety as well as pride to Dr Bamberger, who had no funds to care for the precious but rapidly deteriorating films.

Old film is self-destructive. As chemical disintegration sets in, the

nitrate stock becomes as explosive as dynamite. Only divine protection can explain how the Borromäum was spared a fiery holocaust during all those years.

Dr Bamberger, having disclosed still more of the Borromäum's treasures stored in the cellars of the Vatican, allowed Mingay to borrow a few films, which he showed to the then curator of the National Film Archive, David Francis. Francis recognised the treasure for what it was, and sped to Basle.

The archive's subsequent decision to acquire the Joye Collection was not an easy one, however. For an archive to undertake the responsibility of old films is very different from a museum accepting a Greek vase or Sévres porcelain. Once acquired, hundreds of thousands of pounds, at the least, were needed to make the Joye Collection safe and showable.

Each film had to be copied onto stable, safety film stock. Before they could even be put into printing machines, however, the films, often already crumbling, had to be meticulously repaired. The team of women who undertake this delicate job at the archive's Paul Getty Conservation Centre at Berkhamstead must often devote many days to repairing a single reel.

At first, money was a problem. In an article on this page ten years ago, I warned that "for want of time — and money to buy that time — a very large part of the

treasure could well decay beyond retrieval before it has even been seen." Fortunately, the warnings were heeded, and after 15 years' work the archive is at last able to announce that almost one thousand of the 1,200 surviving Joye films are safe and that work is progressing on the rest.

What has emerged from that cellar in Basle is an incomparable picture of a long-lost world bequeathed by the 19th century and brought to an end by the first world war.

Because the films were never touched or copied over the years, the photographic quality is often superb. Hundreds of travel films and actualities show us the cities and the people of that world. We glimpse again the debut of Tom Mix, the carefree fooling of the early French and Italian comics, linked to much earlier traditions. The ambition and spectacle of Italian epics, made in what has generally been supposed the primitive era of cinema, can still amaze.

The occasion chosen to show off some prize samples of this incunabula of the movies is the annual Ernest Lindgren Memorial Lecture, given at the National Film Theatre by the Swiss historian Roland Cosandey, who has spent several years researching the extraordinary legacy of the good Abbé Joye.

The Ernest Lindgren Memorial Lecture will be given at the National Film Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 3232) on February 14

Joye to the world of film-buffs



One man and his hoard: Top, a scene from the 1915 feature *Havsgamar* (Sea Valtures), directed by Victor Sjöström, and (above) a caricature of the Abbé Joye in 1920

ART ADMINISTRATION

Presidential discomfiture

Sarah Jane Checkland sits in on question time for the head of the Royal Academy

The president of the Royal Academy was in top diplomatic form last Thursday night, when subjected to a public grilling on his policies and role. Fielding the first enquiries with the "I am a nonentity, a mere figurehead without influence" line, Roger de Grey then teased the company into an expectation of controversy by announcing that, as a student, he had the "deepest contempt" for his institution. Yet he blustered when asked what changed his mind.

The annual Summer Exhibition fail, it was suggested from the floor, in its function of defining quality, and is a mish-mash of contemporary styles. De Grey dissented, with evident surprise.

The old preconception that art must progress is outdated, he said. We are living through a remarkable renaissance of the arts. Quality manifests itself in many forms.

Significantly, it was the disappearance of the ladies' lavatories which really set the debate going, and gave the best insight into what the presidency — once occupied by the great Sir Joshua Reynolds — now entails. As a woman in the front row regretted the demolition of this treasure of Victorian plumbing, and elaborated the merits of making money from its wooden seats, the horror of de Grey's lot became clear. He is trapped by a techy old-boys-network within, and a mafia of Kensington ladies without.

The occasion was the "Head to Head" debate at Art 91, the contemporary art fair at the Business Design Centre in Islington. De Grey's head was in the pillory; I was one of those taking aim with the tricky questions. Occasionally the sparks flew. The president bristled when reminded of Sir Anthony Caro's refusal last November to join the academy on the grounds that the Summer Exhibition was "a mess". Sir Anthony's remark at the time was: "You can't clean up a dirty river by pouring a pail of clean water into it." De Grey felt that was hurtful and sad. To condemn the Summer Exhibition is to condemn his fellow artists in the Waddington Galleries stable.

As for those who complained that the recent Monet exhibition was overcrowded, despite the innovation of pre-purchased tickets, de Grey put them in their place by quoting a friend who viewed the show in a wheel-chair. She was so moved, she maintained, that she saw "only the pictures, not the people".

Then came the question of the



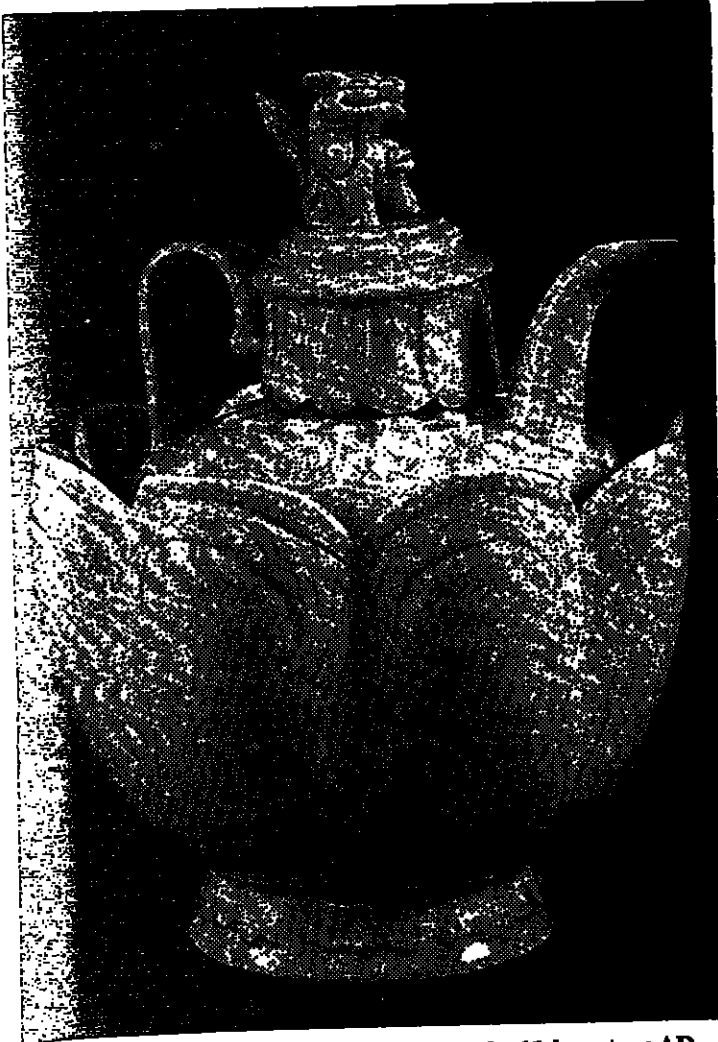
Roger de Grey: diplomatic and blustering by turns

Burlington House Fair, supposedly the most important art and antique fair in the world. Its ousting from a regular slot in the academy's calendar, de Grey said, is not so much a matter of expelling money-changers from the temple (as believed by the resentful organisers), as of quality. In de Grey's view, the gradual increase over the years of the event's "over-restored furniture" at the expense of its paintings quota meant it is better placed at the Grosvenor House Hotel.

As for the current fight over the exhibition of the late Emil G. Bührle collection, due to open next Friday, de Grey said that claims of Nazi associations on the part of the Swiss collector were "monstrous accusations".

The biggest achievement of de Grey's career as president of the Royal Academy will probably be in the category of administration rather than art: he has overseen the new development currently taking form within a spare courtyard in the heart of the premises.

Having weathered complaints from the Victorian Society that it is a "rude incursion of hyper-modernism", Norman Foster's project, entailing the transformation of the upstairs galleries and a new stairwell, is scheduled to open in the summer.



A wine ewer and warming basin from the 11th century AD

Discount decadence

QUEUING in the rain for cheap theatre tickets has become such a fixture of the West End that the Leicester Square Half-Price Ticket Booth is celebrating its tenth birthday. The Gulf situation has apparently led to considerable reduction in demand for full-price tickets, so business at the booth may well be particularly brisk at the moment. A week of special events marking the anniversary begins today, when the cast of *Return to the Forbidden Planet* will perform for those in the queue. In the past ten years, the booth has sold more than 3.5 million tickets.

US imports WHEN it was under the iron control of Herbert von Karajan,

the Salzburg Festival was something of a jousting ground between the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic Orchestras. Now its new artistic director, Gerard Mortier, has signalled the start of a new era by striking a long-term deal with a top American orchestra. The Cleveland Orchestra and its music director, Christoph von Dohnányi, will present three concerts in the summer of 1992, more concerts in 1994, and have an extended residency in 1995. In addition to conducting the Cleveland Orchestra, the Berlin-born Dohnányi will also conduct the Vienna Philharmonic in the festival's new productions of *Salome* (1992) and *Cost Fan Tuote* (1993).

Cine-cannibalism

JUST as the music charts are dotted with cover versions, so the film schedules are turning into lists of sequels and re-makes. Next summer's production schedule already includes a list of sequels that

reads like a pools coupon: *Terminator II*, *Problem Child II*, *Child's Play 3*, *The Naked Gun 2½ 1/2*, *Die Hard*, and *Ted's Excellent Adventure II*. Re-makes have always been popular, but Hollywood has been returning to ever more recent hits in pursuit of box-office riches. This feeding on the past is becoming a little close for comfort: PolyGram is reportedly planning a re-make of Steven Frears' 1984 thriller *The Hit*.

Last chance . . .

THE National Theatre has been home to a succession of Arthur Miller plays these past four years, and for the last eight months has had two in its repertoire. But *After the Fall* ended its run at the Lyttelton in December and this week sees the last four performances in the Olivier (071-928 2252 until Thursday) of *The Crucible*, Miller's moving parable of mass-hysteria, starring Tom Wilkinson and Zoë Wanamaker.

Revenge of the little people



Offbeat: Jonathan Hadary as Charles Guiteau, Victor Garber as John Wilkes Booth and Terrence Mann as Leon Czolgosz in *Assassins*

Assassins Playwrights Horizons, New York

NERVES are even more bared than usual in this jittery city at the moment. Some people are going to work with gas masks in their briefcases, and not just to fight off the effluvia commonly in the air at business meetings. Others have emerged from previews of Stephen Sondheim's latest musical declaring that his treatment of John Wilkes Booth, Lee Harvey Oswald and other presidential assassins was disgracefully sympathetic under the circumstances. Judging by some of the comments, he might almost be recommending that George Bush be shot and, at least until his own dispatch, Dan Quayle be put in charge of the war against Iraq.

The show that actually opened last night turned out to be rather subtler. Sondheim has his morbid side — remember *Sweeney Todd*? — and admittedly brings a certain gory relish to the scrutiny of tainted minds and twisted psyches. But that is not the same thing as sentimentalising sickness and murder. What really interests Sondheim and his librettist, John Weidman, is a matter of genuine concern: the tendency of the American dream to frustrate people and, on occasions, turn

them into sensational destroyers. If we understand the process better, American presidents' chances of surviving longer might even improve.

That is not to claim that *Assassins* as it stands will save America, or even rescue the Broadway season from its now traditional mediocrity. Problems of structure and, especially, staging need sorting out before the musical moves from its upmarket attic to a theatre better able to cope with an already frenzied demand for tickets. Yet it has the makings of one of Sondheim's most fascinating exercises in the offbeat. Jerry Zaks needs to tighten his production, turn up the dramatic voltage, increase the feelings of madness already in the air (and exorcise such silly jokes as Gerald Ford bumping into the décor while equally inept women take potshots at him); the result could then be the operatic counterpart of the kind of garish, haunting nightmare that would send any American to his psychiatrist to be reassured he was not falling apart.

Weird figures cluster with their pistols at a fairground booth offering unspecified prizes to those hitting the heads of replica presidents. A chuckling fellow in a frock coat elbows aside an owl boy in jeans. These are, respectively, Guiteau, (Jonathan Hadary) the megalomaniac who shot Garfield for not making him ambassador to France, and

Hinckley (Greg Gorman), who winged Reagan by way of impressing the actress Jodie Foster. A prematurely wizened man in a cloth cap edges away from a fat slob with a dirty wet showing beneath the Santa Claus outfit he inconspicuously wears, presumably to earn a few cents at Christmas. They are Czolgosz (Terrence Mann), the obsessed radical who killed McKinley, and Byck (Lee Wilkof), who hijacked a 747 in hopes of crashing it into Nixon's White House. Then the set twists into a barn, where the failed actor Booth (Victor Garber) is dictating a letter assuring posterity that he murdered Lincoln for nobler reasons than bitterness at bad reviews.

Booth reappears often afterwards, somewhat unsatisfactorily transformed into a sinister link-man who whispers encouragement to hesitant killers and eventually persuades the wimp Oswald (Jace Alexander), who meant only to commit suicide, to become "the big one, the one that's going to sum us up". But before that little climax there are undeniably chilling moments. Socialists melodiously celebrate FDR's escape from death while a squashed-face Zangara (Eddie Korbic), a failure at assassination as at everything else, growls, "You think I care? I no care", from the electric chair. Guiteau skips up the gallows steps, unconvincedly trilling "I'm going to the Lordy," while a balladeer offers him the

reassurance he really wants: "Look on the bright side, you'll be remembered."

As this suggests, there is parody galore: folk songs, sentimental ballads, and the kind of upbeat tunes heard on Broadway both nights. A schmaltzy song in praise of guns, "All you have to do is move your little finger and you can change the world", might be by Lloyd Webber. There is also an inverted national anthem, a rancorous jeremiad for America's losers, that only Sondheim could have composed. "Where's my prize? What about my prize? I want my prize." Here as elsewhere the lyrics are plain, but the music boils with blistered anger.

Why did these people do it? Sondheim's answers include savage feelings of inferiority and despair, a craving for celebrity, a nice, convenient belief that one man encapsulates every supposed injustice, a warped idealism that might be termed the Brutus Syndrome, and (Zangara again) a suspicion that the president caused his awful indignation. But behind these individual motives lies the vindictive disappointment of people who have beaten their hands raw on the gates of what looks like Eden, and not been allowed inside. Yes, *Assassins* is about the frustration of the American dream. It might also be about Adam, getting his own back on God.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE



Howarth: brilliant colour

he also has some vivid accompanied recitative and a glorious duet with Aspasia.

That this part was wonderfully sung by Judith Howarth in this performance helped, of course. Throughout she was confident, immediate and brilliant in colour, line and decoration: a marvellous display of how feeling and sense here come out of virtuosic artistry. With Lillian Watson bringing her bright thrill to Aspasia, the duet

was a treat, crowned by an unashamedly showy cadenza.

The other heroine, Ismene, has less lively music, though Joan Rodgers tried to coax it with beauty, while Jochen Kowalski offered smooth, luminous singing as the darker son Farnace, finding problems only when the line dips below middle C. Perhaps there simply is no modern replacement for the alto castrato, just as the tenor role of Mitridate seems to call for a kind of voice that no longer exists, a voice at once agile and strong, capable of easy leaps up to trumpeting high notes: David Rendall bravely faced the task. In the smaller roles, Anne Mason was a neat Arbate and Barry Banks a chipper Marzio.

Jeffrey Tate, conducting a score which judiciously trimmed the recitative and the more repetitious arias, offered solid support, though this is music which would benefit from the lither sounds of period instruments. On Wednesday the ECO moves on to Mozart's next big undertaking, the oratorio *La Betulia liberata*.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

OPERA Mitridate Barbican

ALL the best authorities agree that Mozart's first serious opera is conventional stuff, and no doubt if one knew more of Jommelli, Galuppi, Hasse, Traetta and J.C. Bach it would be necessary to agree. However, opera *serio* was all about bringing excellence to the conventional, and this concert performance, starting the English Chamber Orchestra's chronological bicentenary journey at the Barbican, proved that *Mitridate* is thoroughly excellent indeed, often very beautiful, and just occasionally shocked with moments suggesting the daring and the insight to come.

Of course, it is a moot point whether those moments show emergent personality, or whether instead they are conventional things that Mozart would later transfigure. Is, for instance, the agitated G minor aria a forerunner of later Mozart in the same key, or

is it rather that Pamina's "Ach, ich fühl's" and the penultimate symphony are distant extrapolations from something which, in *Mitridate*, is still merely a common-place? This is really a question of bearing rather than brute fact. If we listen to *Mitridate* as an example of opera *serio* from the third quarter of the 18th century, then it may seem quite ordinary (though still extraordinary, surely, for a boy of 14). But if we hear it as something by Mozart, then suddenly it becomes filled with pregnant possibilities.

To take another instance, the libretto, based on Racine, gave Mozart his first opportunity to treat the father-son theme: Mitridate, absent on campaign, returns to find his two sons amorously entangled with his intended queen, Aspasia — a problem that can only be resolved in a rapid shuffle of forgiveness, repentance and death. Then again, the character of Sifare, the noble son, presages something of the later antique heroic parts written for castratos: Idamante and Sesto. Sifare's big aria with obbligato horn is the plum of the opera, but

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 18

HIPPOLYTA
(c) In the *Dream Thessens* wife, and so Duchess of Athens. She is warrior-queen, and the text refers to her martial dignity and connections: "I was with Hercules and Cadmus once/When in the wood of Crete they bayed the bear."

FENTON
(c) In *Merry Wives*, the willowy young gentleman who steals Anne Page from under her parents' noses. The standard young lover of farce, a handsome nonentity: "He capers, he dances..."

COMINIUS
(a) Decent Roman consul in *Coriolanus*: "I do love/My country's good with a respect more tender/More holy and proud than mine own life." His name echoes the Latin *comitatus*, and he keeps his cool even in uproar.

STRATO
(c) Brutus' slave in *Julius Caesar*, the only one willing to hold the sword while his master turns on it. "The conquerors can but make a fire of him/For Brutus only overcame himself, and no man else hath honour by his death."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

42ND STREET
Return to the board for the 42nd Street Chess Club. The club is open to all and is a great place to learn and play chess. The club is open to all and is a great place to learn and play chess.

MISS SAIGON
The musical *Miss Saigon* is a powerful story of a young Vietnamese woman who is sold into prostitution in Saigon during the Vietnam War. The musical is a powerful story of a young Vietnamese woman who is sold into prostitution in Saigon during the Vietnam War.

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
The musical *The Phantom of the Opera* is a story of a young man who is disfigured and lives in the shadows of the Paris Opera House. The musical is a story of a young man who is disfigured and lives in the shadows of the Paris Opera House.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK
The musical *The Woman in Black* is a story of a young man who is haunted by the ghost of a woman who died in a shipwreck. The musical is a story of a young man who is haunted by the ghost of a woman who died in a shipwreck.

MAP OF THE HEART

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NEW RELEASES

AKIRA (12) Apocalyptic mayhem in a futuristic Tokyo. Led by a vicious Japanese armoured tank, ramped by its comic-style director, Katsuhiro Otomo. ICA Cinema (071-550 3547).

CATCHFIRE (15) Defi, ragged tale of a mob hitman (Dennis Hopper) falling in love with the girl he's killing. Jodie Foster, Hopper also directs, under a pseudonym. Cannon Cinema (071-352 3555).

HAVANA (15) Robert Redford as the gambler enticed by a mysterious woman (Lena Olin) during Castro's revolution. Sluggish romantic drama with paper-thin characters. Director: Sydney Pollack. Cannon: Baker Street (071-825 5772).

MANACOP 2 (14) Cries return visit of the concept drama, with heavily staged action stunts and insufficient humor. Director: William Lustig. Cannon: Parker Street (071-550 0831).

POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE (15) Quaint townhouse comedy. A few terms, from Carla Fisher's novel. Mary Streep as the drug-addicted actress, Shirley MacLaine as her mother. Director: Mike Nichols. Orion: Leicester Square (071-550 8111).

ROCKY V (PG) Sylvester Stallone fights his last battle for his boxing career and spirit. Directed and to the boxing script: director, John G. Avildsen. Cannon: Chelsea (071-352 3555).

THE GARDEN (15) The Passion according to Daniel Jarman — a powerful, elegiac tapestry of scenes and images on death, religion and gay love. Director: Daniel Jarman. Cannon: Baker Street (071-825 5772).

HOME ALONE (PG) Puckly left alone at Christmas, a young boy (Macaulay Culkin) outwits a pair of burglars. Directed by John Hughes. Cannon: Baker Street (071-825 5772).

THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY (15) A chilling story of a young boy (Macaulay Culkin) who is kidnapped by a pair of burglars. Directed by John Hughes. Cannon: Baker Street (071-825 5772).

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CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated) with the symbol (L) on release across the country.

spreading love and compassion with the help of Walt Whitman (Rip Torn). Director: John Kent Harrison. Cannon: Tottenham Court Road (071-550 8148).

CYRANO DE BERGERAC (L): Gérard Philipe as the lovelorn, long-nosed Cyrano, director: Jean-Paul Rappeneau. Transforms Rostand's play into magnificent, over-the-top spectacle. Cannon: Chelsea (071-352 3555).

THE FOOL (L): Suffocating, static tale of financial industry in Victorian England from the Little Dorrit team. With Derek Jacobi, director: Christine Eckford. Cannon: Tottenham Court Road (071-550 8148).

THE GARDEN (15): The Passion according to Daniel Jarman — a powerful, elegiac tapestry of scenes and images on death, religion and gay love. Director: Daniel Jarman. Cannon: Baker Street (071-825 5772).

HOME ALONE (PG): Puckly left alone at Christmas, a young boy (Macaulay Culkin) outwits a pair of burglars. Directed by John Hughes. Cannon: Baker Street (071-825 5772).

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MIRACLE MILE (15): Two city lovers find their romance interrupted by an impending nuclear attack. Bright, stylish drama from promising director Steve De Jarnatt. Anthony Edwards, Mimi Rogers. Cannon: Tottenham Court Road (071-550 8148).

NARROW MARGIN (15): Cal and mouse games on a train, with distinct atonement. Gene Hackman, murder witness Anne Archer, and the Mob. Directed by a pair of brothers, Peter Hyams. Cannon: Tottenham Court Road (071-550 8148).

THE NASTY GIRL (PG): Provocative, funny assault on Germany's Nazi past, with Lena Olin as the girl uncovering her home town's shady history. Cannon: Chelsea (071-352 3555).

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE (15): Jeremy Irons as the respectable Claus von Bülow, tried for the attempted murder of his wife. Brilliant unraveling of a recent outrage. Director: Barbet Schroeder. Cannon: Tottenham Court Road (071-550 8148).

ROGER CORRIAN'S FRANKENSTEIN UNBOUND (15): Laffey-day Frankenstein steps back in time to meet his original, ingenious madman, hampered by uncertain execution. John Hurt, Ray J. Cannon: Baker Street (071-825 5772).

THE ROOKIE (15): Slowly potboiler from director John Eastwood, a tough LA detective never partnered with a non-LA rookie (Charlie Sheen). Cannon: Tottenham Court Road (071-550 8148).

THE SHELTERING SKY (15): A chilling story of a young boy (Macaulay Culkin) who is kidnapped by a pair of burglars. Directed by John Hughes. Cannon: Baker Street (071-825 5772).

- 6.00 The Channel Four Daily. With the latest news from the war in the Gulf
- 9.25 Schools
- 12.00 Channel 4 News headlines
- 1.25 All Muck and Meggie? Organic gardening series. Sue Strickland visits a garden in Norfolk that provides a rich crop of organic fruit and vegetables. Also includes a look at a group of imaginative allotment holders in Liverpool (r). (Teletext)
- 2.55 Business Daily. Financial and business news service
- 3.00 Sesame Street. Informative and entertaining series for pre-school children
- 2.00 Grizezade – A Sense of Place. A look at the largest collection of open air sculpture in Europe – in Grizezade Forest in the southern Lake District. Sculptors featured include Richard Harris, David Nash and Colin Ross and they discuss their approach to their work which involves working with natural materials and placing the finished products in an environment which allows them to become extensions of the landscape itself (r)
- 3.00 The Late Late Show. Dublin's topical and lively music and chat show hosted by Gay Byrne
- 4.00 Traveltog. A visit to Chicago to look at the exciting hot-spots neglected by guidebooks (r)
- 4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers competition
- 5.00 American Football. Mick Luckhurst introduces highlights of Super Bowl XXV from Florida's Tampa Stadium
- 6.00 Roseanne: The Slice of Life. Roseanne Barr stars as the hard-working, vice-cracking mother of three in the American mid-west (r)
- 6.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. This evening's guests are veteran actor Sir John Mills and former Propaganda singer Claudie Bruckner
- 7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext)
- 7.50 Comment followed by Weather
- 8.00 Brookside. More gritty realism from the suburbs of Liverpool. (Teletext)



An Idealistic editorial vantage point: Fernando Rimbias (9.00pm)

00.00 Spain – in the Shadow of the Sun.
 * CHOICE: This last of four pictorial essays about what Spaniards are thinking about the future of their country and what they plan to do about it as they advance further into the Nineties, focusses interestingly on some of the ethical and commercial challenges – in an ideal world, there shouldn't be any difference between them – that will confront Spain's future in its ties with the European Community. And what better vantage point from which to review them than the editorial offices of the magazine *El Europeo*, a vigorous two-year-old with an incisive political personality that refuses to be dimmed by the publication's glossy veneer and, more important, by the Big Business take-over threat to its independent voice. Fernando Ribónes, *El Europeo's* young and keen editor for the last year, has been imported from the US, and seems highly unlikely that Channel 4 would have seen fit to transmit it at a time when the official British attitude to the conflict is that, give or take the odd pocket of dissent, the nation stands united behind the allies. Fast-talking poets and slow talking peace campaigners, the elderly, the young and the old, the black and the white – all get their few seconds of screen time, flung against banners that declare "We are not the enemy," "We are not the enemy," "Support the troops – Bring Them Home!" As a montage of the many ways of saying "No!", the film offers much food for thought if you have an appetite for the other man's point of view.
 Channel 4 Ends Midnight Special. The day's news from the war in the Gulf. Ends at 2.00am

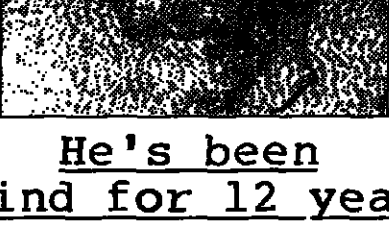
1.06 *What's Cooking 1:10* Search
 1.20 *The Edge of Night 2:00* Search
 1.25 *It's Your Lucky 2:35* Search
 1.35 *Wayne 3:05* RFP's *Line 3:55*
 1.35 *Break 4:00* WFFY in Cincinnati 4:35
 1.40 *Antarctic Generation 5:00* The Seafarers
 Shopping Channel 5:00, JSTV 10:00
 1.45 *Sale-Vision Shopping Channel 12:00*
 1.50 *Joe Bonadio*

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
 1.00 *The Macropollo satellite.*
 1.00 *The Movie Show*
 1.00 *The Strange Possession of Mrs. K...*
 1.00 (1937): A bonnet headpiece (Karen
 1.00 *Discover that she has two identities*
 1.00 *My Friend Irene (1949):* two code jerks
 1.00 *on Martin and Jerry Lewis)* become
 1.00 *involved with the exorbitant rise and her*
 1.00 *careerist brother.*
 1.00 *Three Wives of Billy Gray (1954):* A
 1.00 *Plotish business has three*
 1.00 *as before he dies of pneumonia aging*
 1.00 *The Movie Show*
 1.00 *Plotish business (1959):* A *bride* *tried*
 1.00 *in the kidgee of two newly-weds*

1.20 *Tropical Storm (1989):* A *widess* *and*
 1.20 *a petty con from Bogota, devise a plan to*
 1.20 *move to the United States. Starring Nick*
 1.20 *and Macatine Stone*
 1.40 *Targate (1983):* A *retired horror film*
 1.40 *director becomes a psychosocial sniper*
 1.40 *ghost. Starring Gene Roddenberry*
 1.25 *Sam The Haunting of Sarah Hardy*
 1.25 *(1989):* An *hellish* *visions of her dead*
 1.25 *mother, pushing her to the brink of insanity.*
 1.25 *Starring Sam Ward. Ends at 3:05*

THE SPORTS CHANNEL
 1.00 *Visit the Macropollo satellite.*
 1.00 *150m Racing 12:00* 2:00 *FA Cup Football*
 4:00 *Scottish Football 5:00* 5:00
 5:00 *American Sports Cavalcade 8:00* *Surfing*
 8:00 *Magazine 8:30* *Superstars 7:30* *Scottish FA*
 7:30 *FA Cup Football 7:00* *Scottish Soccer*
 10:00 *American Wrestling 11:00* *Racing*
 10:00 *11:30 Scottish FA Cup Football*

THE POWER STATION
 1.00 *Visit the Macropollo satellite.*
 1.00 *Twenty-one hours of rock and pop*



He's been
blind for 12 years

Your £12 will
restore his sight
in 10 minutes

In developing countries, there are thousands of elderly people like him. He suffers from cataracts of both eyes. Leaving him blind and totally dependent on others. But he doesn't have to be.

Just £12 from you, a tea-minute operation and he will be given back his sight. What better gift?

Please return the coupon with your donation now.

Help the Aged, St. James's Walk, London SE1R 0BE.

I want to give the gift of sight

☐ £12.00 (Pays for a cataract operation to restore sight in both eyes)

☐ £24.00 (Pays for cataract operations to restore sight for two people in both their eyes)

Money is also needed for tackling some of the causes of blindness — malnutrition, poverty and bad hygiene.

enclose my cheque/postal order for
to: Help the Aged, Project 916062

FREEPOST, London EC1B 1BD

or charge my Access/Visa Card Number:


Expiry date /

Signature _____

Name _____
(Mrs, Miss, Ms, Mr.)

Address: _____

Postcode: _____



Help the Aged
THE TIME TO CARE IS NOW
Reg. charity no. 277288

Somali leader flees in a tank after rebels seize palace

From REUTER IN NAIROBI

THE Somali president, Mohammed Siad Barre fled in a tank yesterday after rebels overran his palace and seized the state radio station, a Médecins sans Frontières official said.

Stefan van Praet said volunteers from the international medical charity in the capital, Mogadishu, reported that after four weeks of fierce fighting between rebels and government troops Mr Siad Barre's whereabouts were unknown.

"It is true he fled in a tank yesterday morning and 15 minutes later rebels took over the presidential palace," he said.

The news from the team of six medical volunteers came after a satellite telephone link-up to Mogadishu from the Kenyan port city of Mombasa where the medical relief operation is based.

Telex and telephone links to

Mogadishu have been cut since rebels of the United Somali Congress (USC), one of several groups battling to end Mr Siad Barre's 21-year rule, stepped up their offensive on December 30.

A spokesman for the Somali Patriotic Movement (SPM), which controls much of the south of the impoverished Horn of Africa country, said they were in contact with their forces in Baidoa, 140 miles west of Mogadishu, yesterday.

He said SPM units, led by Colonel Mohamed Omar Jeiss, who defected from Mr Siad Barre's forces in 1989, had been fighting alongside the USC in the capital for several days.

The spokesman said the SPM in the field confirmed Mr Siad Barre had fled Mogadishu, but that he had left some military units in the city. He said the remaining government troops were holed up in the Aviazone military base near the airport.

The military forces comprised some tanks, anti-aircraft units and members of Mr Siad Barre's hated Presidential Guard, the Red Berets, which were dominated by his Marehan clan.

The MSF forces reported that heavy fighting was raging in many areas of the battle-torn capital, but that loyalist forces appeared to control the airport.

"A lot of people are wounded, but it is impossible to say any more about the exact situation," a member said.

Early yesterday, a USC broadcast, monitored by the BBC, appeared to confirm the state radio station was also in rebel hands. "We are addressing you from Radio Mogadishu, voice of the Somali people," it said.

The broadcast said the USC had taken over the "government and responsibility of the Somali people". It called on people not to take advantage of the situation by looting and stealing from their countrymen and appealed for peace.

The USC, the SPM and three other rebel groups formed a loose coalition last August and vowed to topple Mr Siad Barre, a former military commander took power in a bloodless coup in October 1969.

Dr Omar Salaat, the USC representative in the eastern Ethiopian city of Dire Dawa, said he believed Mr Siad Barre would now try to flee by sea or land to Kenya.

"He has no option left," he said.

Playing East against West, page 8



Death march: more than 500 members of the King's army of the English Civil War Society marching in the footsteps of King Charles I yesterday to commemorate "His Majesty's Horrid Murder" in 1649. The march, from St James's Palace, along the Mall, through Horse Guards Arch to the Banqueting Hall in Whitehall, followed the route of the King's last walk before he was beheaded by the Parliamentarians

Americans retreat on tourist front

Continued from page 1

served but with frequencies reduced, in some cases radically. "The market is patchy," a BA spokesman said yesterday. "The Caribbean, Africa and the Far East are holding up quite well, while American routes have taken a knock. Premium travel, by first class and Concorde, has really suffered."

Other airlines, including KLM, TWA, Iberia, Olympic and Swissair, are similarly affected and have cut their operations.

The biggest funk, the travel trade spokesmen agree, is shown by Americans. "They are in a wet panic," said Ms Dale. "American bookings are down by a quarter for travel to Europe from the United States this year. The actual figure was down by a half this week."

The Martha Graham Dance Company vowed to cancel its visit to the Paris Opera, and Sylvester Stallone cancelled a visit to St Moritz for fear of terrorist attack.

It is not only Americans who are staying at home. Over 12,000 Japanese booked with one travel agency cancelled European trips in the first two days of the war.

Christophe Charpentier of Havas Tourisme, the French travel group, says: "There have been hardly any clients since the beginning of January."

Pol Pot orders the Khmer Rouge to protect wildlife

From JAMES PRINGLE IN PHUM DONG, CAMBODIA

POL POT, the infamous leader of the Khmer Rouge, under whose rule up to one million people died, has called on Cambodians to protect the country's diminishing wildlife. Western intelligence sources along the Thai-Cambodian border say that the Khmer Rouge leader recently issued a directive calling on Cambodians not to poach birds and animals, and to refrain from killing them for any reason.

The sources said that, in areas where poaching is more serious, the Khmer Rouge is fencing off animal sanctuaries. Pol Pot has said that wild birds and animals are an important part of Cambodia's heritage.

One of the Khmer Rouge leader's most trusted lieutenants, Ta Mok, popularly known as "the butcher" because of his cruelty against people during Khmer Rouge rule in Cambodia between 1975 and late 1978, is also now sensitive to ecology issues and the protection of endangered species, the sources said.

Anyone contravening Pol Pot's "green" directive, along the northern border of Cambodia where Ta Mok operates, is brought before a

jungle court to be sentenced to four days' labour on building the fences.

Of course, the most endangered species during Pol Pot's own rule was the human species itself.

Here in Phum Dong, Cambodians under the control of the Khmer Rouge are honouring Pol Pot's "green" strictures — there are no animals on sale.

The situation is different at Psar Kandal, 15 miles north of here in an area controlled by the Vietnam-backed Phnom Penh regime. While visiting this area, I was offered a live bear cub (for £300), a

pelican (for £18), owls, hawks, monkeys, otters, mongoose, and a pangolin (a scaly anteater). Cambodians say they need animals for food or for selling to Thai traders.

When I asked the owner of the bear cub, a furry friendly creature if he would consider releasing it, he said: "But I am a poor man, monsieur. I bought this cub from the forest people with my own funds. I need to sell it in order to feed my family."

During the past 21 years of war and repression, Cambodia's wildlife has been decimated, sometimes for food for a hungry population, but often because of mines and unexploded bombs.

Elephants are much less frequently seen than in the past, and the kouprey, a species of wild forest ox which is one of the world's rarest large mammals, may be extinct in Cambodia. The primitive bovine has been seen lately in neighbouring Laos, foreign experts said.

If this were the case, it would be particularly tragic, but, perhaps, symbolic of Cambodia's bloody tragedy, for the kouprey is the country's national animal.



Prague sells off its state greengrocers

From CHRIS POMERY IN PRAGUE

THE private sector was reborn in Czechoslovakia this weekend with the first privatisation sale by public auction of several Prague shops, the lowest rung of the state's monopoly.

The privatisation scheme is the cornerstone of the free-market liberalisation policies of Vaclav Klaus, the Czechoslovakian finance minister, who aims to convert the country into a capitalist economy in years rather than decades. Although only seven businesses were auctioned on Saturday, a fraction of the 70,000 that needed to be broken up and privatised, Mr Klaus' intellectual mentor, Margaret Thatcher, would approve: the first four were suburban greengrocers.

Though none came with the land title, only the right to lease for two years, most properties were sold at about 50 times their starting price. Greengrocers and butchers are some of the richest legitimate business people in Prague, able to salt away precious items and barter them unofficially for other goods and favours.

Yet most of the 300 people who crowded into Prague's townhall were watchers rather than bidders.

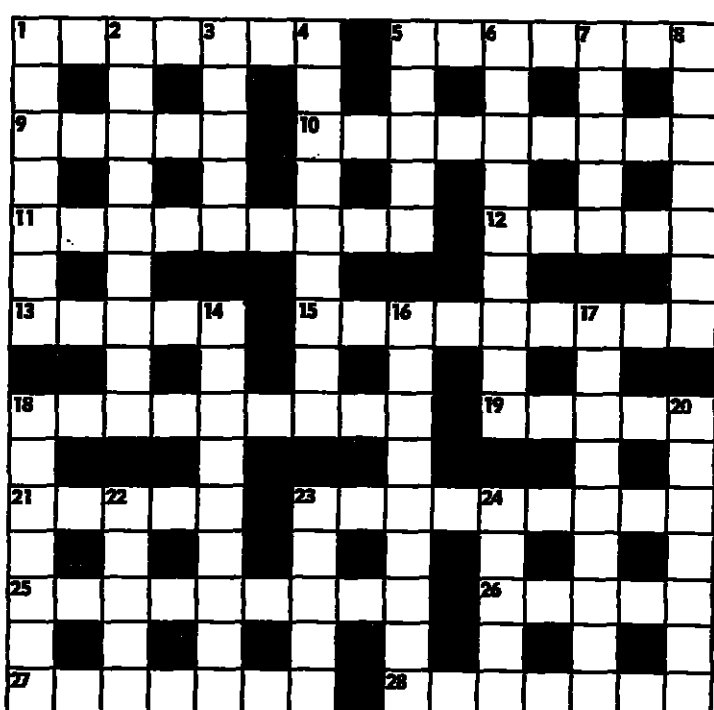
As the prices rose most local bidders dropped out, out-gunned by those acting for foreign buyers or overseas relatives.

Czechoslovakia's first state-sanctioned private property owner since communist nationalisation in the 1950s is Robert Rulík, a businessman and accountant, who is already working in the mushrooming grey area alongside the state sector. He bought a suburban food outlet with a turnover of 2 million Czech crowns (£36,350) for 900,000 crowns (£16,350), outbidding his only rival, the current shop manager, who had borrowed more than half a million from the bank.

Though Mr Klaus' ministry estimates that up to 70 per cent will hit difficulties during the start-up period, Mr Rulík was optimistic he could get his money back and plough profits into additional shops.

Officially only current and former Czech citizens are able to buy into the country at this stage, a rule that appears loosely interpreted. Privatisation will also act as a massive money-laundering scheme for the rampant black market in and around Prague.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,514



A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

WORD PARTS

HIPOLYTA

a. A disguised lover

b. A mistaken twin

c. The Deities of Athens

FEINTON

a. A low-flying aircraft

b. A traitor and turncoat

c. A young lover

COMINUS

a. A gentlemanly consul

b. A fickle friend

c. Father of Calpurnia

STRATO

a. A conspirator

b. A friend to Titus

c. A faithful slave

Answers on page 16, column 1

AA ROADWATCH

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London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circles) 731

M-ways/roads M4-M11 732

M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T. 733

M-ways/roads Dartford T-M25 734

M-ways/roads M25-M4 735

M25 London Orbital only 736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways 737

West Country 738

Wales 739

Midlands 740

East Angles 741

North-west England 742

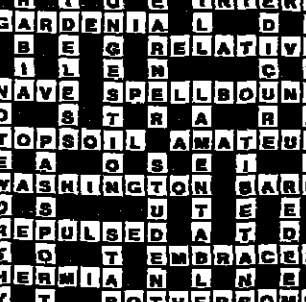
North-east England 743

Scotland 744

Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

Solution to The Times/Collins Crossword Championship Qualifying Puzzle No 18,505



The best of the weather will again be in the extreme north and west where strengthening south-westerly winds will keep the weather relatively mild and bright. Other areas will have a dull start but probably with less fog and drizzle than recently. It will be cold in the south again with local frost in many inland areas. Outlook: little change but with some light rain in the west

MIDDAY: 1-b, 2-c, 3-d, 4-e, 5-f, 6-g, 7-h, 8-i, 9-j, 10-k, 11-l, 12-m, 13-n, 14-o, 15-p, 16-q, 17-r, 18-s, 19-t, 20-u, 21-v, 22-w, 23-x, 24-y, 25-z, 26-aa

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Scotland 744

Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

Solution to The Times/Collins Crossword Championship Qualifying Puzzle No 18,505

Particulars: 1. BILLY, 2. GARDEN, 3. RELATIVE, 4. ILE, 5. GUN, 6. SPELL, 7. BOUND, 8. STRA, 9. T, 10. AMATEUR, 11. WAS, 12. WASHINGTON, 13. GARD, 14. S, 15. U, 16. T, 17. E, 18. REPULSED, 19. A, 20. T, 21. E, 22. M, 23. N, 24. E, 25. T, 26. BOTHERSOME

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BUSINESS

MONDAY JANUARY 28 1991

Business Editor
John Bell

Opposition to hard ecu plan 'declining'

From Peter Guilford in Brussels

NORMAN Lamont, the Chancellor, will meet his European Community colleagues in Brussels today, amid signs that opposition to the government's hard ecu plan for economic and monetary union is declining.

France will table its alternative plans for Emu, which French government officials say will steer a course between Britain's "evolutionary" approach to a single European economic and monetary policy, and the more forthright

idea of welding the 12 economies and currencies together by a fixed series of deadlines. In addition, Spain's central bank now says the hard ecu plan coincides "point by point" with its own ideas.

Britain's fiercely contested hopes of slowing the process of Emu could receive another boost from a confidential document to be unveiled today by the European Commission. The document implies economic instability provoked by the Gulf war and the costs of German unification are causing the 12 economies

to drift further apart. The convergence of economic policy and performance among the 12 is seen as a prerequisite for monetary union.

The report concludes: "The process of convergence of economic performance and policies among member states has slowed down considerably and a reversal can even be observed in some instances."

The prime culprit is Germany, whose efforts to cushion the costs of unification without softening its tight control of the money supply has swelled public spending

and kept interest rates and inflation high. This has a domino effect throughout the rest of the community. The 12 economies converge best when inflation falls, the report says, and the negative impact on Emu could be large.

This could prove a tough dilemma for the EC. Germany is anxious to respond to calls for it to contribute more towards Gulf war costs, financially if not militarily. But it is also being told to avoid any inflationary measure that could dampen growth and delay convergence considered vital to Emu.

Mr Lamont may chivy Britain's EC partners in private today to pay more to the war effort, but he will not call action at a community level, the Treasury said. Italy and Greece are also accused of not curbing public debt enough last year and Belgium, Portugal, the Netherlands and Ireland are also criticised.

Meanwhile, Pierre Bérégovoy, the French finance minister, has spoken out broadly in favour of strengthening the ecu into a parallel currency before finally locking exchange rates and rolling the 13 currencies into one. But it is not clear if he has full French government support.

Further backing for the British position has come from Mariano Rubio, governor of the Bank of Spain, in an interview with ABC, the newspaper. "Britain's plan coincides point by point with the second phase of the Spanish proposals presented last September," he said.

The third phase, leading to a single currency, was the only difference, albeit a major one, he said. But Britain's latest contribution to the Emu debate has led Señor Rubio to detect "an approximation of certain positions which beforehand were far apart".

German budget deficit 'to be much lower than expected'

By Wolfgang Münchau, European Business Correspondent

GERMANY'S 1991 budget deficit is likely to be "substantially" lower than estimated because of higher than expected tax revenues, the Bonn finance ministry said yesterday.

Last year's deficit is also likely to have been lower, at DM50 billion, than the DM67 billion originally projected, the ministry added.

The news is likely to be a welcome boost to the mark and German bonds in international markets today, after increasing concern over the mounting deficits needed to finance unification.

The forecast will also be a relief for the Bundesbank, which has threatened to tighten monetary policy if the 1991 deficit was in danger of exceeding the projected DM140 billion. The Bundesbank is now less likely to consider a change in the base discount rate. If the forecasts prove correct, pressures for



Theo Waigel: tax boost parity changes within the exchange rate mechanism are also likely to subside.

Theo Waigel, the finance minister, said this year's budget, due next month, will not be based on higher taxes. However, he did not exclude tax rises to help fund the cost of the Gulf war. But he denied that tax rises were necessary to finance German unity. He said the increase in

domestic demand by 4.9 per cent, the rise in investment by 12 per cent and higher resulting tax revenues solve the problems "connected with the economic unification of the country".

German revenue forecasts have often proved inaccurate, partly because of the complicated structure of tax breaks. Last year, the economy grew at 4.6 per cent, the highest rate since the mid-Seventies, and capacity utilisation in the key metal industry remains over 90 per cent. There has been speculation in German newspapers that the revenue overshoot amounted to DM4.2 billion last year, and was continuing at a similar level this year.

Federal government borrowings this year will fall below the projected DM70 billion, but the size of the total deficit will also depend on the deficits incurred by the 16 federal states.



Wakeham's power gamble

THE government is pushing ahead this week with what looks like the biggest gamble in its privatisation programme, the flotation of the two electricity generators, whose pathfinder prospectus will be released on Friday (Martin Waller writes).

The £3 billion offer for PowerGen and the larger National Power closes on March 6. The price will be released with the full prospectus on February 22. The government and its advisers are adamant the flotation will go ahead, the Gulf war notwithstanding.

John Wakeham, energy secretary, is thought to be insistent that only a serious market crash induced by a Gulf military disaster would cause the issue to be pulled. Mr Wakeham is part of the war cabinet and chairs the committee co-ordinating publicity.

Some City sources are less sure, however, and even op-

timists are keen that the price on offer should reflect the uncertainties in the market. The government has set out its stall with a prospective yield of 7 per cent or even lower, some City institutions are looking for at least 8 per cent.

The pathfinder will contain profit forecasts for the two and reveal the amount of debt with which they have been saddled by the government. National Power will forecast about £400 million pre-tax for the current year to end-March and announce some £450 million of debt, while PowerGen expects to make £300 million with debts of £270 million.

The government will give details of the "golden share", which will run in perpetuity but will be revocable after two years, effectively then making the companies vulnerable to hostile takeover. Mr Wakeham has already indicated that the government's remain-

ing 40 per cent of the two will be on sale to all comers after two years.

● The National Grid, jointly owned by the privatised electricity distribution companies, has announced its biggest investment programme so far, an estimated £200 million of work to strengthen the high-voltage transmission system in the Northeast.

The work is needed to accommodate the output from the planned 1,725MW combined cycle gas turbine station being built by ICI and Enron, the American energy group, at Wilton, Teesside, and which will come into service at the end of 1992.

The programme includes replacing some overhead power lines, putting up new ones and extending a number of sub-stations. Some existing overhead lines will be dismantled and removed.

HK rate at 9.5% after US cut

From Lulu Yu in Hong Kong

HONG Kong's best lending rate goes down 0.5 of a percentage point to 9.5 per cent today. The fall is expected to stimulate mortgages and credit demand, and may slow the economy's downturn.

"The downturn in the economy is something we'll have to face in the months ahead," said Ronald Carstairs, chairman of the Hong Kong Association of Banks, the banking cartel that sets interest rates.

The colony's rates have been lowered in response to a cut in the American prime rate two weeks ago. Since 1983, Hong Kong's currency has been pegged to the dollar at \$1 to HK\$7.80 (£0.51). As a result, local rates have had to reflect generally American trends, despite Hong Kong officials' desire to keep the rates tight to counter inflation.

Alan McLean, chief economist for the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, said: "Hong Kong interest rates cannot stay out of line for very long. Any latitude can put the dollar link at risk."

Today's rate cut, which affects interest rates across the board, is bound to fuel inflation, which surged to 11.3 per cent last month, the highest in seven years, and shows no sign of abating. The December rate brings average price increases to 9.7 per cent for 1990, compared to 10 per cent in the previous year.

Other economic statistics released by the government show a surge in imports last month, which swung December's trade balance to a deficit of HK\$2.39 billion.

Imports rose 25 per cent from a year earlier to HK\$59.36 billion. Domestic exports edged up 2 per cent to HK\$20.21 billion while re-exports climbed 24 per cent to HK\$36.76 billion.

Total exports for 1990 rose 12 per cent to HK\$639.87 billion while imports increased 14 per cent to HK\$642.53 billion.

Visitor arrivals last year rose 11 per cent to a record 5.93 million, significantly above the Hong Kong Tourist Association's forecast of an 8 per cent growth.

While the labour market remains tight, with an unemployment rate of about 2 per cent, weakening in manufacturing, property and retail sales is expected.

Oil stocks ruling in the balance

By Martin Barrow

THE International Energy Agency may suspend or modify its plan to draw oil from strategic stocks to maintain stability in world markets after a meeting in Paris today.

The agency, which co-ordinates the energy policy of the leading oil consuming countries, has been criticised since the outbreak of the Gulf war for proceeding with plans to release up to 2.5 million barrels per day even though oil prices have remained sharply below pre-war levels.

Oil traders and analysts complained that such a step had become unnecessary following Saudi Arabia's success in increasing output to compensate for the loss of crude from Iraq and Kuwait.

Coupled with slightly higher output from other Opec countries and with falling demand from industrial nations, there is the prospect of a glut of oil

during the second quarter of this year, particularly in the absence of colder weather in the northern hemisphere.

The oil spillage in the Gulf is unlikely to have a significant impact on the agency's thinking because the market has already more than compensated for the absence of Kuwaiti oil.

IEA members, including Britain and America, are reluctant to draw oil from stocks when a comfortable balance exists between supply and demand. The Netherlands has said it will ignore the IEA directive and will argue its case before the agency's

governing board. But the IEA may now suspend or modify its plans. Some analysts suggest that the agency could introduce a time limit, or trial period, for the plans although some governments may well argue strongly against any change.

The energy department said yesterday that Britain's position was to "maintain the consensus" reached among the IEA's members at a meeting this month which took action to calm the markets. Strategic stocks in Britain are held by leading oil companies, which naturally oppose being forced to sell oil at present

prices. Steve Turner, an oil analyst at Smith New Court, said: "Companies will ask why the IEA was not prepared to draw down stocks when oil was worth more than \$40 a barrel." Britain's contribution to the IEA drawdown would be 120,000 bpd.

The collapse of oil prices from \$33 a barrel at the start of the war to \$20 is also likely to deter companies from bidding for the 33 million barrels of crude America is initially making available from its strategic reserves.

Demand for the oil is already weak because refiners prefer lighter grades.

DTI urged to secure more for UK in rebuilding of Kuwait

By Ross Tjeman

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE trade department has begun urgent talks with British companies to ensure they are not left out of Kuwait's £25 billion reconstruction.

Fears are strong that American companies, lead by the Bechtel construction group, are close to signing contracts with the Kuwaitis. Concern has been aggravated by the Kuwaitis' establishment in Washington of an office to allocate reconstruction work.

A senior executive at one British construction group with extensive Gulf experience said: "We have the feeling that the Americans have got it all tied up." Com-

panies appear to believe the DTI should be playing a more active role on their behalf.

A senior trade department spokesman in London said: "The Americans will obviously want to get the lion's share of this work since they are the ones who have put the greatest effort into liberating Kuwait. We are very anxious to ensure that British companies do get a share of the business."



Reassuring: Al-Sabah

Last week Sheikh Salem Abdul-Aziz Al-Sabah, governor of the central bank of Kuwait, attempted to reassure an audience at the World Trade Centre in London about trade relations in the Gulf. He said: "The position that Britain has taken will not be forgotten by Kuwait."

The trade department believes the most promising areas for British companies are telecommunications, oil and gas, water and sewage and construction.

Buyers check out Czech shops

From Peter Green in Prague

ONE of the most important steps in Czechoslovakia's transition to a market economy began on Saturday with the privatisation of about 17 small businesses at a public auction in Prague.

At least 500 spectators, buyers and journalists packed Prague's City Hall for the first auctions, breaking into applause as the shops, mostly greengrocers, went for up to fifty times their asking price.

The success of Czechoslovakia's privatisation programme over the next few months is expected to influence similar efforts to take place across Eastern Europe.

Most of the lots were only two-year leaseholds and a shop's contents. Food shops must continue to sell food for one

or two years, and this first round of bidding was restricted to Czechoslovak citizens. However, at least two shops were sold to the wives of foreigners.

The first lot, a greengrocer's in a rundown neighbourhood, opened at 11,500 koruna (£222). About 15 minutes later, the shop had been sold for Kor580,000.

Tomas Jezek, the Czech republic's minister of privatisation said: "This is quite clearly a success."

Jaromir Bedrna, a senior adviser at the Czech ministry of trade and tourism, said inflation and the 18 per cent interest loans available to potential buyers could easily put the most desirable shops out of the reach of Czechoslovak citizens.

"Everybody here buying at high prices is a foreigner," he said.

Privately owned and managed busi-

nesses already exist in Czechoslovakia, but the auction, and hundreds of others expected in the coming months, are intended to put tens of thousands of shops, restaurants and small businesses into private hands.

The architects of Czechoslovakia's economic reforms hope the privatisation will create a new class of businessmen and women filled with the entrepreneurial spirit needed to revitalise the Czechoslovak economy after four decades of centralised communist state planning.

Saturday's auction brought in Kor8.8 million on a total asking price of Kor1.48 million. Originally, privatisation was expected to raise more than Kor30 billion but that amount could double or more. Most of the money raised will be lent to small businesses.

BT policy 'not likely to survive'

By Our City Staff

BRITISH Telecom's pricing policy is unlikely to survive the introduction of full competition in the telecommunications sector, a senior official of Ofel, the industry's regulator, says today.

The suggestion that BT's policy of average prices - the company's way of resolving the problem of allocating costs between different customer groups - will not survive the government's review of the telecommunications duopoly, is the latest twist in an increasingly bitter wrangle between BT and Ofel.

Last week, the two clashed over pricing policy. Sir Bryan Carstairs, Ofel director general, said that Iain Vallance, BT's chairman, may have given a "seriously misleading" impression of the agreement on price that BT and Ofel reached in 1988.

Fod Barnes, Ofel consumer policy adviser, says today that average prices are not economically efficient.

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You won't find a sexier fixed-rate mortgage.

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John Charcol is a licensed credit broker. Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or other loan secured on it.

CHANGE ON WEEK	
THE DOLLAR	
US dollar	1.9590 (+0.0175)
W German mark	2.9180 (+0.0019)
Exchange index	94.4 (+0.3)
STOCK MARKETS	
FT 30 Share	1645.0 (-9.9)
FT-SE 100	2103.0 (+0.3)
New York Dow Jones	2659.41 (+12.63)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave	23573.25 (-235.05)
COMMODITIES	
Australia \$	2.61
Austria Sch	2.61
Belgium Fr	2.61
Canada \$	2.61
Denmark Kr	2.61
Finland Mk	2.61
France Fr	2.61
Germany DM	2.61
Greece Dr	2.61
Hong Kong \$	2.61
Ireland Pt	2.61
Italy Lira	2.61
Japan Yen	2.61
Netherlands Gld	2.61
Norway Kr	2.61
Portugal Esc	2.61
South Africa Rd	2.61
Spain Ptas	2.61
Sweden Kr	2.61
Switzerland Fr	2.61
Turkey Lira	2.61
USA \$	2.61
Yugoslavia Dnr	2.61

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 129.9 (December)

PLATINUM

Capitalisation and change on week

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices.

PLATINUM

Claims required for +49 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
22.0% Black	176	171	7.0	8.0	8.0
27.0% Birthplace	176	171	7.0	8.0	8.0
10,827.00 in Telecom	224	1	0.5	0.5	0.5
1,300,000 People (M) A'	40	-1	0.5	4.5	4.5
5,613.00 Cables Wireless	470	+17	1.1	2.0	2.0
57.44m Computer Eten	154	-3	3.0	10.0	10.0
38.14m Chlorine	16	..	..	..	..
14.4m Computer People	165	..	..	7.5	7.5
9.14m Clay Steel	43	+2	..	..	..

3,350,000	Acres	370	0-11	18.0	0.3
2,750,000	Acres	80	0-3	2.3	0.2
500,000	Brooklyn Ind.	450	0-7	20.0	0.3
250,700	Brooklyn Ind.	13	0-1	0.2	0.3
50,100	Brooklyn Ind.	150	0-3	1.0	0.7
0,075,000	Brooklyn Ind.	23	0-1	0.2	0.3
73,700	Brooklyn Ind.	190	0-3	1.0	0.7
12,000	Brooklyn Ind.	20	0-7	10.7	0.3
50,000	Brooklyn Ind.	20	0-7	10.7	0.3

33.00	Tuition	100	-6	15.0	10
2,000.00	Tire Hedges	100	-6	..	..
1,000.00	Wheel Lids	100	-6	..	..
30.75	YDII	40	-6	12.0	8
100.00	Zeckland	200	-6	5.0	3
999.75	Zecklander H	101	-10	54.0	10
100.00	Zecklander Lloyd	30	-6	3.0	3
22.00	Zecklander	100	-10	..	..

911.4m	Surge Control	391	-8	26.5
82.5m	Chin Energy	715	-20	10.0
320.5m	Cutter Oil	108	-8	10.0
5,484.0m	Caspar Oil	15	-1	10.0
37.4m	Caspar	87	-6	5.0
433.5m	Cycle Pet	288	-27	10.0
43.5m	Cycle	482	-27	10.0
48.5m	Dip Comp Louisiana	83	-	10.0

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A NEW FUTURE, A NEW COMMITMENT, A NEW NAME.



EniChem

At an extraordinary meeting held on January 18th 1991 it was announced that ENIMONT will change its name to ENICHEM. The Italian chemical company currently employs 50,000 people, 3,000 in R & D; with a turnover of US\$ 13,000 million, a range of over 30,000 products and a presence in 42 countries. This change of name reinforces ENICHEM's commitment to investing resources and manpower into the future of chemical research; opening new horizons for improving the quality of life for both man and the environment in which he lives.



Eni

Time to expel some old beliefs

Assisted places lying vacant

Our partners in Europe can teach us a thing or two about freedom of choice, Geoffrey Parker says

Let me begin with an imaginary tale. Hans is worried. It is 1992 and his company, taking full advantage of the free market within the European Community, is moving him to its subsidiary in Britain. Hans is a skilled man, the best kind of middle manager Germany can produce. He has been around.

In every country in which he has lived, he has sought education outside the state system for his twins, Dieter and Anna, now aged 15, partly because of an ingrained distrust of "the state", partly because the schools his children have attended have had a curriculum and an ethos to his liking. He and his wife have strong views on their children's upbringing.

He has not found this part of his entry into British life easy. His new past will be in the industrial Midlands and he knows that in every British city there is a school of excellence, independent of the state and along the lines of the *Gymnasium* that he has admired so much in his native country.

He chooses a boys' school, goes to see the head, and the bewilderment begins.

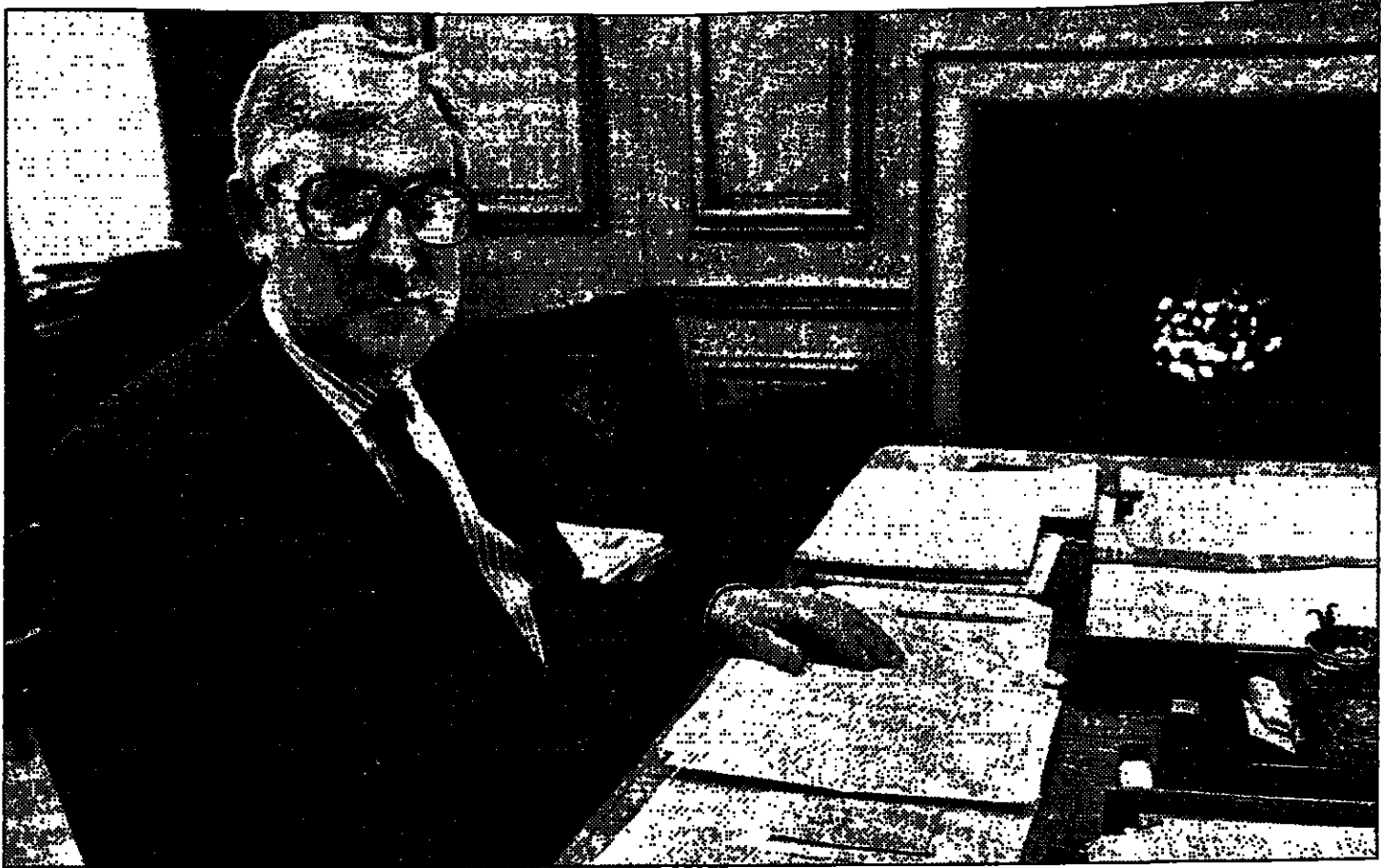
First, no places are available. The school is over-subscribed and the same is true of the nearby sister foundation.

Second, the fees are rather high. He could pay for one child, not for both children. There are assisted places but they are limited in number and Hans will just fail to qualify for fee remission.

The head suggests boarding. Hans is interested, remembering his friends in various countries whose children had been boarders — until he hears the size of the fees. No hope there.

He also discovers during the course of his discussion and in conversation with those at his new place of work that private education is something about which the British public and their politicians argue and where feelings often run high. He contrasts this with the situation in Germany, where there is a two-thirds subsidy for private schools and a tax allowance for boarders, which brings this kind of education within his means.

He remembers his short stay in



Britain falling behind in educational partnership: Geoffrey Parker, high master of the independent Manchester grammar school

The Netherlands, where nearly three-quarters of children are in private schools, where a cardinal principle of state policy is that parents may choose the school they think most suitable, and where fees are low enough to make this choice a reality.

He remembers, too, Denmark, where he knows the proportion in private schools is roughly the same as in Britain, but where generous assistance with fees is given. He thinks that for his children's sake he should remain in Germany, and he does.

The story could well be true. Alone among European Community countries, Britain has failed to grasp, let alone solve, the problem of the relationship between independent schools and the state. True, there has long been a solution to the problem of the religious and denominational schools, although in some areas this remains a live issue, but during the past decade there have emerged two developments that politicians of all parties have, with a few exceptions, chosen to ignore.

First, there is the continuing growth of private education. Numbers in schools have steadily risen and new schools have been founded, and this despite the increase in fees at a rate higher

than inflation. Partly, this is because the state sector is in turmoil, but it is also because parents of all backgrounds are seeking choice, identifying what is good for their children — high academic standards, good discipline, an ethos that they find sympathetic — and are finding the money to pay for it.

Both factors are likely to persist for the foreseeable future. The Tories' idea that state schools will become so good that demand for private education will disappear or Labour's that independent schools will be sought only by "snobs and eccentrics" are fanciful nonsense. An increasingly affluent society is likely to demand more choice, not less.

Which brings me to the second issue: the vast increase in the power of the state over education. There have been moves to devolve power to parents and money to the schools, but those liberal and sensible measures have been countered by greatly increased control over both curriculum and the examination system. Now there are moves to transfer the entire funding of state education to the centre, too.

Nor have British governments

been particularly successful at managing education. Almost every important education act has failed to achieve its objective.

Other measures — one thinks of Circular 10/65, which introduced comprehensive education — have been ill thought out, either nationally or locally. Much recent legislation bears the same imprint.

The country needs more than ever a thriving independent sector as a refuge, an alternative to the state monopoly and as a benchmark — an indicator of what might be done and, more important perhaps, how much it costs.

We have in independent schools a wide variety — academic and comprehensive, schools for the less able, single-sex and co-educational, denominational and progressive. There are also much wisdom and professional expertise, and a capacity to train good teachers, develop syllabuses and advise on curriculum, all now done despite a system that seems designed to frustrate rather than to engage co-operation. And co-operation could benefit so many children.

So the tale has a moral, too, and one that might be acted on. Neither I nor my colleagues in independent schools want the kind of educational apartheid accu-

ately described by George Walden in his pamphlet, "The Blocked Society". His remedies provide a good starting-point. The opposition parties should abandon their policy of financial penalties. They should agree not only to keep the assisted places scheme, but should also agree with the Tories to extend it. They should accept that independent schools are here to stay and try, as has every other European state, to promote the kind of partnerships that can benefit both individuals and the life of the nation.

There would need to be other measures too — not, please, a royal commission, taking time and making elaborate recommendations that would promptly be put on the back burner. Remember the public schools commission.

Rather, we should move forward with the mixture of pragmatism and expediency that seems to work well for the British. There are plenty of models worldwide from which to pick and choose.

The time to re-write the manifestoes for the next general election is drawing near. In private education, I should like to see the junking of some cherished beliefs and much more imagination.

The writer is the chairman of the Headmasters' Conference.

DECLAN O'Regan, whose father, a retired postman, never earned more than £150 a week, is to train as a doctor, having left the £4,890-a-year St Paul's School, London, with three A grades in his A-levels.

Declan was one of nearly 30,000 teenagers attending independent schools throughout Britain thanks to a government subsidy costing almost £55 million. The latest figures show that the pupils are doing well.

His father, Patrick, who brought up his son largely on his own after his wife, Marie, died 13 years ago, was helped by the government's assisted places scheme that gives financial aid to the gifted children of less well-off families. "It is a great scheme. The trouble is that not enough people know about it," Mr O'Regan says.

There is concern in some parts of Britain, particularly London, that about 20 per cent of the places are not being filled and some families who might benefit are unaware of the scheme. Others face resistance from some state primary head teachers, who are opposed to private education.

Last August, Mori Research showed that 49 per cent of those questioned knew of the existence of the scheme but, in the lower socio-economic groups, the figure fell to a third.

Worried by the figures, independent schools in London launched an advertising campaign last year to spread the news. The Scottish Office has recently said it will make £25,000 available to advertise places in Scotland. The London campaign produced 1,500 enquiries in two weeks.

Children on assisted places have to pass the same examinations and go through the same selection procedures as their schoolmates, whose parents pay an average of £3,000 a year to send them to independent day schools.

Schools taking part in the scheme want to show that children on it do well at their chosen schools. In last summer's GCSE examinations children on assisted places achieved a 90 per cent pass rate, 70 per cent of which were at grades A and B. At A-level, students on assisted places passed 90 per cent of all subjects entered and nearly 47 per cent of all passes were at grades A and B.

In Wales, where the results from the eight schools in the scheme are

recorded separately, children on assisted places passed 48 per cent of their GCSEs at grade A compared with 35 per cent for full fee-paying pupils. At A-level the figure was 60 per cent passing with A and B grades, compared with 44 per cent for other pupils.

In 1989 the scheme cost the government £56.5 million, the actual fees accounting for £54.75 million. There are about 27,000 assisted places in England and Wales and a further 3,000 in Scotland. Labour believes the money could be better spent in other ways to improve state education and will drop the scheme if re-elected. Children who already have places or who have been awarded them will continue to receive help. Some of the independent schools will face financial difficulties if they lose the scheme.

However, Dr Arthur Hearn, the secretary of the Independent Schools Council (ISC), insists that the schools are more concerned with losing the

bright children from disadvantaged families than with losing the money. David Woodhead, the director of the Independent Schools Information Service, believes that a more concerted effort may be required, perhaps from the international banks, to set up a large central fund to help with fees.

Regional take-up of assisted places (at September 1989, with September 1988 figures in brackets): Northeast 78% (74%), Northwest 83% (91%), Yorkshire and Humberside 70% (84%), East Midlands 74% (98%), West Midlands 82% (86%), East Anglia 75% (90%), Southwest 91% (98%), South and Southeast 71% (77%). Greater London not available (82%).

Annual fees under assisted places scheme 1990-91 (average day fees £3,000): taxable income for previous year up to £8,201, parents pay £15 for one child, £9 each for two children; £9,000-£9,300, £10,000-£10,300, £11,000-£11,300, £12,000-£12,300, £13,000-£13,300, £14,000-£14,300, £15,000-£15,300, £16,000-£16,300, £17,000-£17,300, £18,000-£18,300, £19,000-£19,300, £20,000-£20,300, £21,000-£21,300, £22,000-£22,300, £23,000-£23,300, £24,000-£24,300, £25,000-£25,300, £26,000-£26,300, £27,000-£27,300, £28,000-£28,300, £29,000-£29,300, £30,000-£30,300, £31,000-£31,300, £32,000-£32,300, £33,000-£33,300, £34,000-£34,300, £35,000-£35,300, £36,000-£36,300, £37,000-£37,300, £38,000-£38,300, £39,000-£39,300, £40,000-£40,300, £41,000-£41,300, £42,000-£42,300, £43,000-£43,300, £44,000-£44,300, £45,000-£45,300, £46,000-£46,300, £47,000-£47,300, £48,000-£48,300, £49,000-£49,300, £50,000-£50,300, £51,000-£51,300, £52,000-£52,300, £53,000-£53,300, £54,000-£54,300, £55,000-£55,300, £56,000-£56,300, 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Purse strings tighten on music budgets

A campaign has been launched to highlight what many consider to be the threats to music teaching. William Hunter tunes in

Music in Britain's schools, for the past decade played with a double forte, is under threat. Many local education authorities, confronting higher costs and budget cuts, are forcing music training into decline. In some cases, there is a threat of extinction.

Individually and in groups, parents and teachers have been voicing their concern about the state of music education to councillors and MPs. A national campaign to highlight the state of music in schools started on Saturday with a conference, Music in Crisis, at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

In their pre-conference brochure, the organisers, all prominent figures in music education, declared: "Unless ruthless and short-sighted local government economies are stopped, the long-term effects on Britain's musical life will be devastating."

The cold winds of spending cuts are biting fast, and music, the 'jewel in the educational crown', is being sacrificed.

Encouraged by the response to questionnaires, Rodney Stalford, the author, broadcaster and head of strings at the college and one of the conference organisers, says: "Because of the tremendous reaction, we have been able to build up a clear picture of what is happening to music education in many parts of the country."

The conference conclusions and the information from the questionnaires will be used to encourage MPs to join the campaign.

Instrumental music is an easy target for cuts, and St Helens, Lancashire, has decided that string playing is elitist and should not be fostered. Seventeen peripatetic teachers have been sacked.

In most areas, the threat of cuts in the service is due to reduced spending budgets, some caused by poll-tax capping. In education authorities where schools opt out under local management of schools, music is a soft target. The economies are hitting per-

ipatetic teachers, who visit schools to teach various instruments, as well as the co-ordinators and music advisers. They also threaten school music centres, local and county youth orchestras and music libraries and services. Without the opportunities created within schools, the musicians say, many children would never have learnt to play an instrument, joined a choir or performed in a youth orchestra.

Mr Stalford says: "In most areas, music education has been free. Now some local authorities are introducing charges, and lessons have been reduced from 30 and 40 minutes to 15 minutes. What can anybody be taught in 15 minutes?"

He says the post of musical adviser in many authorities is being abolished and music co-ordinators who may not be musicians are being appointed in their place. In many areas, peripatetic teachers are no longer employed so that children are now not learning instruments. One teacher in Clacton, Essex, where charges were introduced, saw her pupil numbers reduced from 100 to 30.

Music in Crisis organisers were told that in Brighton, East Sussex, the local youth orchestra was unable to recruit enough players. "Once the cutbacks have worked through the system," Mr Stalford says, "we will see that situation replicated elsewhere."

Mr Stalford has no doubts about the benefits of music education. He says: "It is desirable that children should have an appreciation and knowledge of good music, but there is more. Most children will not become professional musicians, but they will derive great pleasure from music as adults. Those who have musical talents will go on to the conservatoires and music colleges."

"Some of these children might never have chosen a musical career if they had not discovered their talents at school."

"Music training and learning to play an instrument teach physical and mental co-ordination. It is a valuable discipline that can build confidence and lead to a greater proficiency in other subjects, including languages development and mathematics."

"We can all point to cases where some children who were not doing well in school showed dramatic improvement after learning to play a musical instrument. For those who do not become professionals, we should never overlook the enjoyment to be derived from playing an instrument as an amateur."



Bowing out: pupils at Bebbington high school in Wirral face the withdrawal of all music tuition

well in school showed dramatic improvement after learning to play a musical instrument. For those who do not become professionals, we should never overlook the enjoyment to be derived from playing an instrument as an amateur.

"I am also worried about underprivileged children who have a potential to flourish through music. In some inner-city areas, music education in schools can touch the lives of pupils who otherwise would never make contact with the subject because their parents are not interested."

In contrast to the threat and realities of cuts, Mr Stalford would like to see music taught to all children for a minimum of two years. One area where the school music service is threatened is controlled by Wirral council. Alarmed parents were told recently that the whole service faced a shutdown because £11 million had to be cut

from the education budget. The council later stepped back from the brink, but the future is uncertain.

One parent involved in the local group formed to fight the cuts is Eric Fenna, a teacher, from Wallasey, Cheshire. His two daughters are learning the violin through peripatetic teaching. Joelle, aged 11, has won a place next summer in the National Children's Orchestra, and Abigail, aged eight, started lessons in October.

Mr Fenna says: "The girls are both typical of the benefits that were available through the music service, and they received no private tuition. The worst prospect over the feared cuts is that once services go, they will never return."

"The importance of music education varies. A proportion of children may go on to the level of further education and perhaps take it up professionally. There are numerous examples of musicians from this area who have benefited from the service. For others it is an opportunity to widen their personal experience."

"As parents, we have made representations to local politicians and have also written many letters and received support from organisations such as the Royal College of Music and the Liverpool Philharmonic Society. It is the right time to draw national attention to this problem."

David Straghan, a school inspector for creative and performing arts and a musician, sums up the views of many when he says: "We are now in danger of seeing the clock turned back 30 to 40 years."

MPs focus on teenagers

BACKBENCH MPs have joined the scramble to investigate ways of improving the education of 16 to 19-year-olds in an attempt to raise the numbers staying in education or training.

Education ministers have said they want vocational training to play a more important role in the curriculum, even for 14-year-olds, and expect greater co-operation between school, college and industry.

The all-party select committee on education, science and arts has announced that it will carry out its own inquiry, looking particularly at the Swedish system of tertiary colleges offering both academic and vocational courses, and the German dual system of part-time education leading to vocational qualifications.

MPs will also investigate the organisation of education from 16 to 19, looking at the curriculum, education and employment and the system of qualifications, which many believe is too complicated and confusing.

Governing body

A NUMBER of school and college governors have combined to set up their own training and information service. The government's education reforms have introduced local management of schools, which passes day-to-day matters to heads and governors.

The Independent Institution for School and College Governors (ISCG), based at the Latimer Education Centre, west London, is self-financing and non-profit making. Help from a research panel and advice line will be free. Fees will be charged for other services such as training courses, conferences and seminars.

Each training session lasts two to three hours and is often arranged in co-operation with local education authorities, which provide some funding.

Starting young

MANY Irish men and women start drinking when they are 12 years old, according to a survey of teenagers in the republic. More than one third had taken at least one alcoholic drink in

their lifetime (51 per cent of boys and 35.9 per cent of girls). The average age at which boys started drinking was 12.2 and girls 12.8. Three out of ten currently drank, a third to excess. Half of the 15-year-old girls who drank said they consumed too much.

Timely buy

SCHOOL libraries will be able to clear valuable shelf space with a computerised database containing all the articles published in *The Times* and *Sunday Times* in 1990. The system, produced in conjunction with Toshiba, is available from £795 and is compatible with most of the systems used in schools. Buyers will also be sent suggested exercises linked to the national curriculum.

Spell of revision

THE Royal Society for Arts is compiling a list of most hated words to help GCSE candidates struggling with their spelling following Kenneth Clarke's ruling that they could lose up to 5 per cent for poor spelling in the non-English papers such as science. The



first contenders are: embarrassment, independent, their/there, business, signed and necessary. The list is part of a campaign by the society's examination board to help bad spellers. A new spelling test to be used in schools, business and industry, including words most people find difficult to spell, will be launched in April.

Devlin retires

LORD Devlin, aged 83, has retired as high steward of Cambridge university after 25 years in the ceremonial and honorary office. His main contribution to university life was the Devlin report into the student troubles of the late Sixties.

DAVID TYTLER

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For more details of this feature or to place your advertisement call

Tertia Allan
on
071 481 1066

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Source: UK NRS January 1990 - June 1990.

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The Clerk to the Governors
More House School,
22/24 Pont Street,
London SW1X 0AA

from whom further information is available.

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Further particulars may be obtained from the Master, Trinity College, Cambridge, CB2 1TQ, to whom applications should be submitted not later than 30th March 1991.

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The closing date for applications is 15th February, 1991.

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Applications in writing, including full curriculum vitae and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees, should be sent to the Headmaster from whom further details are available.

Closing date for applications: 11 February

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Application forms and further information from the Department of Engineering, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH. Tel: 0533 524229.

Closing date for applications is 15th February 1991.

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Thoughtless deed compromises hours of diligence and inspires another collapse by England

Gower's recipe for disastrous lunch

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
ADELAIDE

NOT even by taking four prime Australian wickets in the final session of yesterday's play could England fully compensate for what had happened before. Their prospects of winning this fourth Test were all but notionally conceded as they lost seven wickets in less than two hours, either side of lunch.

It may not have been their most spectacular collapse of the tour; there have, after all, been many to choose from. But it was arguably the most culpable, staged on a good pitch and initiated by an aberration for which David Gower cannot glibly be forgiven.

In the final over of the morning, bowled by Craig McDermott, Gower had already survived one top-edged pull and an attempted run-out. With one ball to come, and England's hopes resting

squarely on his alliance with Graham Gooch, circumspection did not seem too much to ask.

Instead, tempted by a ball straying outside leg stump, Gower pivoted, picked it up in that familiar, flicking motion and watched in hypnotised horror as it looped gently and precisely into the hands of Hughes, at long leg.

Not for the first time in this series, Gooch wore the most eloquent expression on the field. He was 80 not out and England had still been placed to ponder a first-innings lead. One thoughtless piece of cricket had compromised hours of diligence. No wonder the captain looked angry.

Gower would be disingenuous if, this time, he excused himself by saying this is just the way he is. It was an acceptable response to the relatively harmless escapade in a Tiger Moth aircraft last week, an incident which Gower is unwisely prolonging by lodging an appeal against

the severity of his fine, but on a matter of basic cricketing sense and professionalism, he has no such defence.

No one on either side has scored more runs in this series than Gower; at times he has played imitatively well. His batting, now as ever, is akin to flying by the seat of his pants and there is no value in judging either his brilliance or his blind spots by conventional standards.

But there is a time and a place for even the most eccentric extremes, and the last ball before lunch does not qualify. It was a moment which justified more than the fly-patch which provoked it, that management accusation of being "immature, ill-judged and ill-timed".

Gooch and Robin Smith, having come together in the predicament of 11 for two on Saturday evening, had gone some distance towards redressing the balance in a watchful stand of 126. Smith came through an anxious start

and began to play with some of his old authority. Although spending 29 minutes on 44 and 17 on 49, he reached a satisfying fifty, his first of the series, by square-cutting Hughes for four before, disappointingly, falling next ball to a checked drive.

Gower had half an hour to negotiate before lunch and in failing by a single ball he gave Australia an incalculable psychological boost. In the next 110 minutes, they wrapped up the innings, England losing seven for 69.

McDermott, whose dismissal of Atherton and Lamb during his third over of the game had first established Australian supremacy, finished with five for 97. Not since Dennis Lillee, 20 years ago, has an Australian taken five wickets in an innings of an Adelaide Ashes Test, and, in his first Test for more than two years, McDermott has sufficiently impressed, with his full length and control of movement, to suggest he

might prosper in the Caribbean in March.

Much of the afternoon damage, however, was the work of Bruce Reid, who again exploited the advantages of the left-arm's angle. He hardly swung the ball, but simply concentrated on a line around off stump; in rapid succession, Gooch, Stewart, Fraser and Malcolm were committed to uncertain shots and caught behind.

This winter, "c Healy b Reid" has firmly replaced "lbw b Alderman" as the death rattle for England batsmen. Of the wicketkeeper's 17 catches in the series so far, 12 have been taken off Reid, who now boasts 25 wickets.

Gooch's departure for 87 meant that he is still without a Test century in Australia. He has, however, passed 50 four times in succession and in nine of his last 11 Test innings. Along with Smith and DeFreitas, he contributed all but 27 of the runs England managed from the bat.

DeFreitas's 45 was an important bonus, banishing the threat of the follow-on. He has never batted better for England, and, in company with the consistency of his bowling here, it gives tempting cause for speculation that his frustrating potential is at long last being fulfilled.

Behind by 157 on first innings, and obliged to take the field with only three of their five chosen bowlers, England did well to rally so effectively, with the help of a sequence of coincidences. Marsh was out in Smith's first over, caught at the third stump, by Gooch at second slip. This was identical to his first-innings dismissal and, astonishingly, Taylor, Jones and Waugh followed suit.

Taylor will have nightmares about this ground after being run out twice in a Test for the second time in three years. Jones, the culprit and Gower the fielder behind this one, Jones's two fours were his only scoring strokes in three Test innings and his second leg-before against DeFreitas was less debatable than his first. Waugh fell to Malcolm for the second time in the game, the only difference being that his second inside edge hit off stump rather than leg.

Twelve wickets had fallen for 202 runs in another day of compulsive viewing and, with two days to go, the draw which everyone had assumed has retreated to the outsider of three possible results.

Ben Smith and James Hodgson claimed three wickets each as England under-19s at Wellington under-20s by 103 runs in their one-day match at Wellington. A sixth-wicket stand of 92 in 66 minutes off 109 balls between John Crawley (44) and Phil Weston (36) was the feature of the England innings as they totalled 240 for seven off 50 overs.

ADELAIDE SCOREBOARD

Australia won toss

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

Batsman	Runs	Balls	4s	6s	Wicket
G R Marsh c Gooch b Small	37	65	5	0	87
Low catch to second slip					
M A Taylor run out (Smith-Smith)	5	-	-	-	19
Played into off pitch, playing back					
D C Boon c Fraser b Malcolm	40	-	4	1	148
Played under ball, caught at third man					
A R Border b DeFreitas	12	-	1	0	75
Eastern off pitch, playing back					
D M Jones lbw b DeFreitas	0	-	-	-	2
Slipped off pitch, playing back					
M E Waugh b Malcolm	138	-	18	2	188
Chopped ball onto stumps					
G J Matthews c Stewart b Gooch	65	-	3	0	237
Third edge taken standing up					
T A Healy c Stewart b DeFreitas	1	-	-	-	7
Off glove to wicketkeeper diving to leg					
C J McDermott not out	42	-	-	-	165
Low catch to first slip					
M G Hughes lbw b Small	1	-	-	-	30
Moved in front of stumps					
B A Reid c Lamb b DeFreitas	5	-	-	-	22
Low catch to first slip					
Extras (lb 2, lb 23, w 2, nb 4)	31				
Total (38.2 overs, 584 mins)	308				

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11 (Marsh 5 not out, 2-82 (Boon 13), 3-104 (Boon 40), 4-104 (Boon 40), 5-124 (Waugh 10), 6-288 (Matthews 31), 7-298 (Matthews 32), 8-355 (McDermott 22), 9-373 (McDermott 34).

BOWLING: Malcolm 28-7-104-2 (2ns, 1w); Fraser 22-5-48-0; Small 34-10-92-2; DeFreitas 22-2-54-4 (1nb); Tufnell 5-0-38-0; Gooch 9-2-23-1 (1nb, 1w).

Second Innings

Batsman	Runs	Balls	4s	6s	Wicket
M A Taylor run out (Gower)	4	-	-	-	22
Liquidated by Boon over short single					
G R Marsh c Gooch b Small	0	-	-	-	5
Juggling catch at second slip					
D C Boon not out	24	-	1	0	126
D M Jones lbw b DeFreitas	8	-	2	0	16
Swung in front of the stumps					
M E Waugh b Malcolm	23	-	1	0	72
Played on, beaten by extra pace					
M G Hughes not out	3	-	-	-	13
Extras (lb 4, w 1, nb 1)	6				
Total (4 wickets, 28 overs, 136 mins)	68				

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1 (Taylor 0 not out, 2-8 (Boon 1), 3-25 (Boon 5), 4-64 (Boon 5)).

BOWLING: Malcolm 8-0-19-1 (1nb, 1w); Small 11-3-30-1; DeFreitas 10-3-18-1.

ENGLAND: First Innings

Batsman	Runs	Balls	4s	6s	Wicket
G A Gooch c Healy b Reid	87	-	8	0	284
Reaching for wide sweeping ball					
M A Atherton lbw b McDermott	0	-	-	-	21
Hit on roll of pad by big inswinger					
A J Lamb c Healy b McDermott	0	-	-	-	3
Faint edge to wicketkeeper					
R A Smith c and b Hughes	53	-	4	0	149
Decided by inswing, drove low catch					
D I Gower c Hughes b McDermott	11	-	1	0	20
Swung ball to deep backward square leg					
T A Stewart c Healy b Reid	11	-	-	-	32
Swung ball to wicketkeeper					
P A J DeFreitas c Matthews b McDermott	45	-	4	0	81
Hit straight catch to boundary fielder					
G Smith b McDermott	1	-	-	-	23
Driving across line					
A R C Fraser c Healy b Reid	2	-	-	-	24
Edged leg cutter to wicketkeeper					
D M Jones c Healy b Reid	2	-	-	-	10
Drive edged to wicketkeeper					
P C R Tufnell not out	0	-	-	-	12
Extras (lb 1, lb 3, nb, 13)	17				
Total (51.3 overs, 305 mins)	229				

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10 (Gooch 10), 2-11 (Gooch 10), 3-137 (Gooch 7), 4-160 (Gooch 80), 5-176 (Stewart 8), 6-176 (DeFreitas 1), 7-198 (DeFreitas 18), 8-215 (DeFreitas 33), 9-215 (DeFreitas 33).

BOWLING: Reid 29-5-53-4 (3nb); McDermott 26-3-97-5 (10nb); Hughes 22-4-82-1 (2nb); Waugh 4-1-13-0 (2nb).

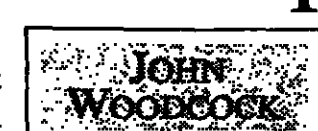
Umpires: L J King and T A Prie.

Bradman compares Waugh to Jackson

Adelaide

IF AUSTRALIA win the fourth Test match, which is probably the likeliest result at the moment, it could be a triumph for attrition rather than of anything more positive. Except when Mark Waugh was playing so beautifully in Australia's first innings, there have been long periods when both sides have been letting events take their course rather than seeking to manipulate them.

Because of Allan Border's innate caution, Australia opted to come off the field on the first evening with six overs unbowed, although Waugh, who was 116 not out at the time, had England on the run. Had England done the same thing in a precisely similar situation, it would have been that it was exactly what an Australian side would never do.



JOHN WOODCOCK
The Australian batsman

Yesterday, the ball moved about, as Alec Beder thought England should have made it when they were bowling in cloudy conditions on Thursday. He should know, he bowled Don Bradman here for no score in Australia's first innings in 1946-7 and shaved his off stump with another leg-cutter before Bradman had scored in the second.

There have been in the match so far only five overs of spin. These were bowled by Tufnell and cost 38 runs. When last an Australian batsman made a hundred against England at Adelaide in his first Test innings, J.C. White, also an

orthodox slow left-arm, took 13 wickets for 256 runs in 125.5 eight-ball overs. His figures were 60-16-130-5 in Australia's first innings and 64-5-21-126-8 in his second. That is the equivalent of 166 six-ball overs. Then, as now, England had only one spinner.

The year was 1929, the Australian batsman Archie Jackson, who was 19 at the time and destined to die from tuberculosis at the age of 23. Much loved and a marvelously gifted player, the pall-bearers at his funeral were Bill Woodfull, Victor Richardson, Bert Oldfield, Don Bradman, Stan McCabe and Bill Ponsford. Like Waugh, Jackson got Australia out of trouble, and although he batted for five hours 20 minutes for his 164 (Waugh took just under four hours to make 138), his last 64 came at a run a minute.

So yesterday I asked Bradman, a contemporary of Jackson's, how Jackson batted compared with Waugh. Bradman was playing in that Adelaide match and added 82 with Jackson in Australia's first innings. There was, he said, a definite similarity. Jackson stood slightly taller and a wicket player, but the attributes of style, quick-footed and attractive apply equally to both.

Bradman never saw the legendary Victor Trumper play. But Alan Kippax was said to resemble Trumper in style and Jackson was frequently likened to Kippax. Jackson stood beautifully at the wicket - balanced, upright and orthodox. So does Waugh. Of Jackson's 164, *Wisden* wrote that he "drove, cut and hit to leg with the utmost certainty and confidence". So did Waugh in his

138. But, hark, the West Indians are preparing for battle and Waugh has yet to face them.

Bradman accounts for White's astonishing figures by citing his wonderful accuracy. Although no draft spinner of the ball - he drifted more than spun in a deep square leg. White difficult to attack. "You went out to him and were not often quite there". The 1929 Test match being timeless (it went into a seventh day), no liberties were taken with White.

He was never, for example, swept, which eliminated the need for a deep square leg. He never had a suicidal silly point, which the moderns do, though he pecked his off-side field. Today's game is different in some ways more cautious, yet in others much more hazardous for bowlers of White's and Tufnell's type.

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3079 with full CV to: David

Leicester beaten as London provide four of the last eight clubs in rugby union's Pilkington Cup

Dismissal of Pugh costly for Neath

Wasps put the sting in the tale of a late, great finish

Gritty Gloucester fall short in a grandstand finish

By DAVID HANDS

By GERALD DAVIES

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

Neath 18 Newport 9

Leicester 13 Wasps 15

Gloucester 13 Harlequins 15

The 11 internationals in the Harlequins team were grateful when the final whistle blew and they could stagger to the Kingsholm dressing rooms at the end of the splendid fourth round Pilkington Cup tie on Saturday.

Those who had represented England the previous Saturday at Cardiff were adamant that the Gloucester forwards had been at their most persuasive, hurling themselves into scrums and mauls with such veracity in a grandstand finish it was inevitable that the Quins defence would crack.

They were split open twice and Gloucester went from 3-15 to 13-15 before Colin High whistled for an end to the strife. All that stood between the sides at the end of a splendid match was one missed conversion by Tim Smith.

It had been such a pity that its most intense - a rousing affair when the Quins defence was lifted, the referee affirmed the conviction that Gloucester had recovered from the trauma of having been foiled at the last hurdle in both the national cup and league competitions.

Harlequins won by two goals and a penalty goal to one goal, laying the groundwork for victory with two early converted tries.

They typified Quins' determination to resist being sucked into the kind of forward encounter that has brought Gloucester such reversal over the years. Quins could not escape such a conflict in the last 10 minutes, but their pre-match plan worked perfectly in the opening exchanges.

For the first try, Skinner punched a hole in the Gloucester midfield and the ball was spun to Harriman, who strode elegantly over the line. Seven minutes later, Harriman stretched the defence to the right, then, realising there was no way through, switched play to the left for a flowing move to open the way for Thrasher to touch down in the left-hand corner. Pears converted both.

The Gloucester forwards responded splendidly and the exchanges became so heated that the referee had to take both captains aside and order them to tell their packs to lower the temperature. There were fewer illegalities, but the pace did not slacken.

Smith kicked a penalty goal to leave Gloucester trailing 12-3 at the interval, but when Pears put the visitors further ahead, against the run of play, midway through the second half, it looked all over.

But Gloucester had saved their best for the last ten minutes. Fierce forward charges almost took Teague, Gadd and Ian Smith over the Quins line, only brave tackling thwarting them.

Then Hamlin picked up the defence when he picked up a botched clearance and wriggled through a gap to score. Smith missed the conversion, but was on target in injury time when he collected a chip ahead to touch down in the corner.

It is unlikely Harlequins will again survive such a bombardment and win. It was glorious stuff.

SCORERS: Gloucester: Try: Hamlin, Murrells. Conversion: T. Smith. Penalty goal: T. Smith. Harlequins: Try: Harriman, Thrasher. Conversion: Pears. Penalty goal: Pears.

GLoucester: T. Smith, J. Permain, D. Cusack, D. Curran, N. Murrells, M. Harriman, P. Jones, K. Dunn, R. Pears, G. Gadd, J. Brain, N. Smith, M. Teague.

HARlequins: S. Thrasher, A. Harriman, W. Caring, S. Halliday, E. Davies, D. Pears (capt), C. Gadd, J. Leonard, M. A. Jones, M. Skinner, T. Colker, P. Atwood, P. Winterbottom, R. Langham. Referee: C. High (Manchester).

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Mind your back: Rigby leads a swarm of Wasps on the Leicester forward, Back.

Wasps, too, had the resolve to climb back into the match after conceding a 9-0 lead to Leicester. "Just the start we did not want," Andrew said, and it might have been worse. Rather than lament the final penalty goal (even then, Liley had the chance to win the match with the last kick of the extended second half, but his penalty from 46 metres lacked the necessary length), Leicester may regret their failure to score the tries on offer in the first half.

Kardoon's early break was supported by Tony Underwood, but the pass was too long delayed, while Back's powerful break must surely have led to a try had he fed Bates ten metres out rather than trying to dummy the remaining cover.

All these were critical in a match where time and space were at a premium. For virtually the first time this season, Wasps had assembled their optimum pack in which Kiney played a leading role, both at the lineout and in the loose. Leicester stayed in contention at the lineout, thanks only to Richards, and all too often he was isolated.

Given their better possession, Wasps might have varied their tactic more, particularly from scrum half and back row, that they could not reflect credit on Back, who harried unmercifully.

So the kickers were left to exchange greetings in the first half (three to Liley, two to Andrew); Wasps pulled level before Leicester ran out of defence and Tony Underwood, chipping ahead, beat Simon Smith to the touch-down. But Andrew's was the final shot in the locker.

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WASPS: A. Buzza, S. Smith, F. Clough, D. Wainman, D. Givens, M. Hardcastle, P. Richards, A. Simmons, J. Probyn, D. Ryan, R. Kiney, S. O'Leary, M. Rigby, J. Elson. Referee: L. Pridmore (Cornwall).

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A gap in status is closed by Tondou

By OWEN JENKINS

Tondou struck a mighty blow for the minnows in the fifth round of the Schweppes Cup competition on Saturday. The leaders of the Central Glamorgan League put out Glamorgan Wanderers, of the premier division, in style and away from home.

Tondou have been coached by J.P.R. Williams, who occasionally turns out for their third XV, and he was moved to say after his side's 11-18 that it was "the proudest moment" of his rugby career.

Wanderers scored a try in injury time to give the scoreline a slightly more respectable look, having had Morgan, a flanker, sent off for punching.

There were no surprises elsewhere, but Llanelli confirmed that they might be worth a wager. They scored 15 tries in an 80-0 home win against Aberystwyth with Jones, on the wing, scoring five of them. It is difficult to believe that Llanelli lost to the Gwent side earlier this season. It was certainly a memorable way to mark Laurence Delaney's 450th game for the club.

Cardiff, after a dreary first half, got their act together in the second for a comfortable 35-0 victory against South Wales Police at the Arms Park. Ford, their international wing, showed what he can do, when given the ball and space, by scoring three of the tries.

In the battle of last season's beaten semi-finalists, Swansea overcame a determined Aberavon to take the spoils 23-13. All the other premier division clubs came through unscathed. Bridgend were successful by 36-12 against Abercrombie while Newbridge were too strong for Bridgend Sports, winning 40-8. Pontypool put 33 points past Aberystwyth, who managed only three in reply, while Pontypool won 27-4 at Pyle.

The draw for the sixth round will be made today, for matches to be played on February 23.

Moseley keep composure to end a depressing sequence

By CHRIS THAU

Bristol 6 Moseley 9

NOT until injury time did Moseley finally manage to break the jinx which has haunted them at the Memorial Ground. With the score locked at 6-6, Hardcastle's dropped goal not only saw them through to the quarter-finals of the Pilkington Cup, but a goal and a dropped goal to a goal, it also brought to an end Bristol's run of 37 years of home success against the team from Birmingham.

Moseley are now two matches away from the Twickenham final. Bristol, who experienced the delight of winning the cup in 1983, must go back to the drawing board. Their decision to delay the announcement of the team until half an hour before the kick-off failed to impress the visitors. It is the players who will win the matches, rather than exercises in psychological warfare.

The scoreline reflects to a large extent the nature of the play, as well as the limitations of the once formidable teams, now in the midst of rebuilding programmes.

In the first half, Bristol played the better rugby. Their mobile pack, with the loose forwards, Collins, Evans and Morrison, winning good, crisp possession, dominated the proceedings.

However, Moseley resisted bravely and cracked only once, at a scrum near their line, when Jeffrey, a gritty scrum half, picked up and crashed over. Gadd's conversion proved to be Bristol's last score of the afternoon.

In the second half, Moseley's forwards not only became more assertive but also took control of the lineout. They mounted attack after attack without being deterred. Cox's decision, early on, to run a penalty in front of the Bristol posts rather than kick at goal seemed increasingly questionable.

Constitution claim first

A PENALTY try 15 minutes from the end of a scrappy game in which Gloucester claimed the first of the three Ainsworth tries, a chip by Morris applied pressure on the left. Morris, Stuart and Langford handled slickly and

play devoid of any unsavoury incident and some excellent running in difficult underfoot conditions.

Constitution deserved their success due in large measure to an outstanding display by the front row trio of Soden, a young loose-head prop not far removed from the international scene, Derham and McCarthy, a tight-head prop of promise.

Mitchell, a New Zealand, has a fine game at No. 8 for Garryowen and Danaher, their captain, was outstanding in the centre.

The game was Munster rugby of the high, fast-paced game and after three Ainsworth tries, a chip by Morris applied pressure on the left. Morris, Stuart and Langford handled slickly and

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Christie has inside running

By DAVID POWELL

ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

LIVIN, FRANCE

THE world indoor 200 metres title is going cheap for Linnor Christie this winter if he decides he wants it. Linnor Christie, British outdoor European champion, the world's most accomplished track athlete last year, is not interested. That means the best of Johnson's season could be reserved for display in Britain, just as it was last summer.

In a year which ended with Johnson, a Texan, at the top of the 200 metres world rankings and unbeaten at 400 metres, his season came in Edinburgh. To revise an old line, which was a fast time like his doing in a place like that? Sprinters prefer hot weather and Johnson's 19.85sec half-past on a chilly evening at Meadowbank was as warming as a nip of the national alcohol.

Here on Saturday, Johnson showed that he is still improving by taking his United States indoor record from 20.59sec, set last winter, to 20.55sec. The French had come to see the fall of the world record, held by one of their own, but Bruno Marie-Rose's 20.36sec was too good for Johnson in his first race of the season.

Johnson said his only other 200 metres would be at Cosford, in the Dairy Crest meeting, on February 17.

He has chosen not to defend his world title. In order to keep fresh for the summer, Johnson is thinking the same. "I started in January and wasn't done until September and now I'm indoors again," he said. "If I was to concentrate on doing well in the world indoors, something is going to suffer, and I don't want to be in Tokyo at the world outdoor championships."

David Sharpe has work to do before his running is in tune with his nickname. He was third in the 800 metres behind Charles Nnamani, of Burundi, and Andrei Sukh, of the Soviet Union. Sharpe started his season by recording 1:41.10sec.

RESULTS: Men: 800m: E. Perrot (F), 1:41.10; 1000m: C. Nnamani (BUR), 2:05.50; 200m: L. Christie (GB), 19.85; 400m: T. Johnson (USA), 20.55; 600m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 800m: C. Nnamani (BUR), 1:41.10; 1000m: C. Nnamani (BUR), 2:05.50; 1200m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 1500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 2000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 2500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 3000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 3500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 4000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 4500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 5000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 5500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 6000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 6500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 7000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 7500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 8000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 8500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 9000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 9500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 10000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 10500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 11000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 11500m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 12000m: J. Sharpe (GB), 1:31.10; 12500m: J. 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Walker left to rue squandered chance in pulsating contest

By DAVID MILLER

Port Vale Manchester City

IT COULD have been so different, and no one will remember more clearly than Ray Walker, Port Vale's captain, on the right-hand side of midfield, who has scored 26 goals in 253 first-team appearances. Ten minutes into the second half, with the score level, it should have been 27.

Port Vale, at this stage, were dominating a cup tie that throbbed, in cup-tie fashion, in front of 19,000 spectators, from first to last. It made you glad that the Porties still boast two League clubs, and irritated that, five miles apart, they cannot or will not pool their resources and bury their differences to share one stadium, which would give greater security to both.

Never mind that just now, Walker came sweeping through the middle of a Manchester City defence — that had been rocked at the eleventh hour by the withdrawal of Hendry with a virus — and had either side of Cotton's goal at what to aim from 12 yards. He failed even to force Cotton to make a save, the shot skidding wide.

A quarter-of-an-hour later, Manchester City experienced one of those freak twists of fortune. A corner was forced



FA CUP

on the left, and before it was taken, Clive Allen was sent out as substitute for Heath. With his first touch, the former Tottenham Hotspur centre forward headed the winning goal as he came in behind Quinn to meet Ward's kick.

The second division side might still have saved the day. The match was distinguished, as Sir Stanley Matthews observed afterwards, by the pace and elusiveness of two left wingers, Jeffers and Ward. With Port Vale throwing everything forward near the end in desperation, Jeffers danced past two defenders, and pulled the ball back from the line to the centre of the penalty area; approximately, it could be said, where Perry stood when Matthews laid on Blackpool's winning goal all those years ago at Wembley.

Now, no one was there. Beckford, Earle and Jepson had all flung themselves in line into the goal area, and the pass flew harmlessly behind them.

In spite of Brightwell, never previously having played at centre back, being thrust into the team as Hendry's deputy,

and in spite of Reid, player-manager and mainspring, being absent following a knee operation precipitated by a clash with, guess who... why, Vinny Jones, Manchester began well. Quinn put them in front after 11 minutes from Pointon's free kick, and on the half hour White could have made it two. His half volley was held by Wood.

Soon, Port Vale drew level. Glover's free kick was hooked goalwards by Earle, that was blocked, and Beckford shot in off the bar. Signed from Maine Road four years ago for a piffling £15,000 — half of this raised by the supporters club — it was his seventeenth goal of the season. Evidence of Port Vale's continuing financial hardship was apparent when the ball, considered to be soft by the referee, had to be inflated by hand pump on the trainer's bench, there being no spare.

Poverty was no impediment to Port Vale for the first 20 minutes of the second half. It was just one of those days when the ball failed to run for them and turned instead City's way.

PORT VALE: T. Wood, N. Aspin, N. Plummer, S. Walters, T. Foster, J. Jepson, D. Glover, G. Ford (sub), A. Porter, R. Earle, S. Mills, D. Beckford, J. Jeffers, S. Matthews, G. H. Cotton, R. Brightwell, N. Pointon, A. Harrison, S. Brown, S. Redmond, D. White, A. Heath (sub), C. Allen, M. Quinn, G. Meggitt, M. Ward.

Manchester City: J. Brightwell, never previously having played at centre back, being thrust into the team as Hendry's deputy,

Dean feels the chill of Soviet emotion

FROM JOHN HENNESSY IN SOFIA

THE Soviet Union team collected its third title in the European championships here on Saturday when Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarev won the ice dance event with an emotional display, for the third successive time. They beat the French couple, Isabelle and Paul Duchesnay, by five judges to two — four neutrals to one after excluding the two who had predictably plumped for their competitors.

Christopher Dean, fiancé to Isabelle and choreographer to the Duchesnays, seems this time not to have created a winner. As always, Dean came up with something new. Music was provided by a solitary piano and the Duchesnays were clad alike to imply the real and the reflected in a mirror.

This time, however, the magic was missing, unhappily certainly by a wobble by Paul Duchesnay during the opening passage. Perhaps, too, the programme was too subtle for an unsophisticated audience and perhaps, again, it told against them that their intricate intertwined final pose collapsed at the end.

Whatever the reason, the judges were clearly right in placing Klimova and her husband at the top.

Clearly, the Duchesnays, who won the free skating in the world championships last year, will be hard pressed to repeat that achievement in March at Munich. There may be changes to their programme, a better skating order and a more understanding audience, but none of that will avail if Klimova and Ponomarev again skate with skill and emotional dedication.

RESULTS: 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarev (USSR); 2, I. and P. Duchesnay (Fr); 3, M. Ushova and A. Zhigalov (USSR); 4, A. Hald and J. Skovgaard (Den).

SNOKER The money rolls in for White

BY BEATING Tony Drago, of Belfast 10-0 on Sunday, won the MIRA World Masters tournament in Birmingham, Jimmy White took his earnings since the first week of December to £334,000 (Steve Actonson writes). His third tournament victory in 1990 brought him a total of £200,000, and with £15,000 to his name this season he is only £5,000 behind the world champion, Stephen Hendry.

White, troubled by a stomach upset and a loose weight in the butt of his cue, was 5-4 down after the first session, but, playing at a slower pace in the evening, he won six of the seven frames.

RESULTS: Jimmy White (Eng) 10-0 Tony Drago (N.Ir); 9-0 Stephen Hendry (Wales); 8-0 Dennis Taylor (Wales); 7-0 John Parrott (Wales); 6-0 Steve Davis (Eng); 5-0 Nigel Jones (Wales); 4-0 Jimmy White (Eng); 3-0 Stephen Hendry (Wales); 2-0 John Parrott (Wales); 1-0 Steve Davis (Eng).

White, troubled by a stomach upset and a loose weight in the butt of his cue, was 5-4 down after the first session, but, playing at a slower pace in the evening, he won six of the seven frames.



Swiss king of the hill: Heinzer putting Austrian domination abjectly to flight

Hoflehner's laughable exit

FROM BRIAN JAMES IN SAALBACH

ONE second into his chance of a gold medal and a place in his nation's skiing history, Helmut Hoflehner, the favourite from Austria, made a mistake that would have the snow-ploughers on the nursery slopes collapsing with laughing scorn. He stuck his ski-pole between his boots and sprawled out of the downhill.

So Switzerland were left to conquer the hill on which Austria had trained and up the slope of which 30,000 patriots had plodded in buoyant confidence. No lowlander can know the gloom which descended as Austria's Alpine domination was put to a justly deserved end.

Franz Klammer, the great Austrian skier, was scathing about Hoflehner: "The mistake of an amateur," he said. "Helmut has the feet of the best downhiller in the world. But on the biggest days, he has no head." As fancied in the 1984 Olympics, Hoflehner, now 31, had unaccountably reached out and picked up a wrong, unprepared pair of skis. What Hoflehner says is not known. He has not been around since, half-recovering from that grotesque error, he laboured on for 200 yards, then steered inconspicuously off the track.

But nobody was taking any

thing away from Heinzer. His victory got the applause it deserved from the knowing, not simply because he had finished fourth in three successive world championships. The delight was for what he did on this sparkling day. Aggressively out of the start box, he lost his line at the wicked compression, recovered, but was only just fastest at the last timing-mark. His 100 seconds was a confidence boost.

And also to a confidence boost. Strong as a bull, Heinzer had been downed by a fall in the first round. He was back, and he was back with a vengeance.

"What he had to do, then, what he did, was give it 120 per cent to the end; just as I had to," Klammer said. Just as Klammer had to win Olympic gold in the field to 55, fewer Taiwanese and Mexicans, less than half those who attempted the shorter version of this piste in the super-giant slalom at the championships' start. Schneider (broken skis) was yesterday's addition to the list.

The only challenge to the fiery Swiss pair came from Italy's

single spark, Peter Runggaldier, who sped down to elbow Maher out of leading place. Only Heinzer, a quarter of a second quicker down nearly two miles of a one-in-three slope, could better Runggaldier's run at nearly 93 kilometres an hour.

Standing between the vastly experienced Swiss pair on the podium, Runggaldier made this look a catchweight contest. Just over 10st, the Italian gave away 44lb to Maher, nearly as much to Heinzer. Strength is vital to hold a line on the awesome ice.

The strength Runggaldier employs does not come from muscle but from the mind.

The sort of mind, for example, of Petra Kronberger, who set aside a fantastic weight of expectation to win the women's downhill. From a swift French rival, Bouvier, and a surprising Soviet, Gladishiva.

RESULTS: Men's downhill: 1, F. Heinzer (Switz); 2, P. Runggaldier (Ital); 3, P. Maher (Aust); 4, P. Schneider (Aust); 5, P. Schneider (Aust); 6, P. Schneider (Aust); 7, P. Schneider (Aust); 8, P. Schneider (Aust); 9, P. Schneider (Aust); 10, P. Schneider (Aust); 11, P. Schneider (Aust); 12, P. Schneider (Aust); 13, P. Schneider (Aust); 14, P. Schneider (Aust); 15, P. Schneider (Aust); 16, P. Schneider (Aust); 17, P. Schneider (Aust); 18, P. Schneider (Aust); 19, P. Schneider (Aust); 20, P. Schneider (Aust); 21, P. Schneider (Aust); 22, P. Schneider (Aust); 23, P. Schneider (Aust); 24, P. Schneider (Aust); 25, P. Schneider (Aust); 26, P. Schneider (Aust); 27, P. Schneider (Aust); 28, P. Schneider (Aust); 29, P. Schneider (Aust); 30, P. Schneider (Aust); 31, P. Schneider (Aust); 32, P. Schneider (Aust); 33, P. Schneider (Aust); 34, P. Schneider (Aust); 35, P. Schneider (Aust); 36, P. Schneider (Aust); 37, P. Schneider (Aust); 38, P. Schneider (Aust); 39, P. Schneider (Aust); 40, P. 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● FOOTING 29
● RACING 30, 31

Arsenal's double under threat

By STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

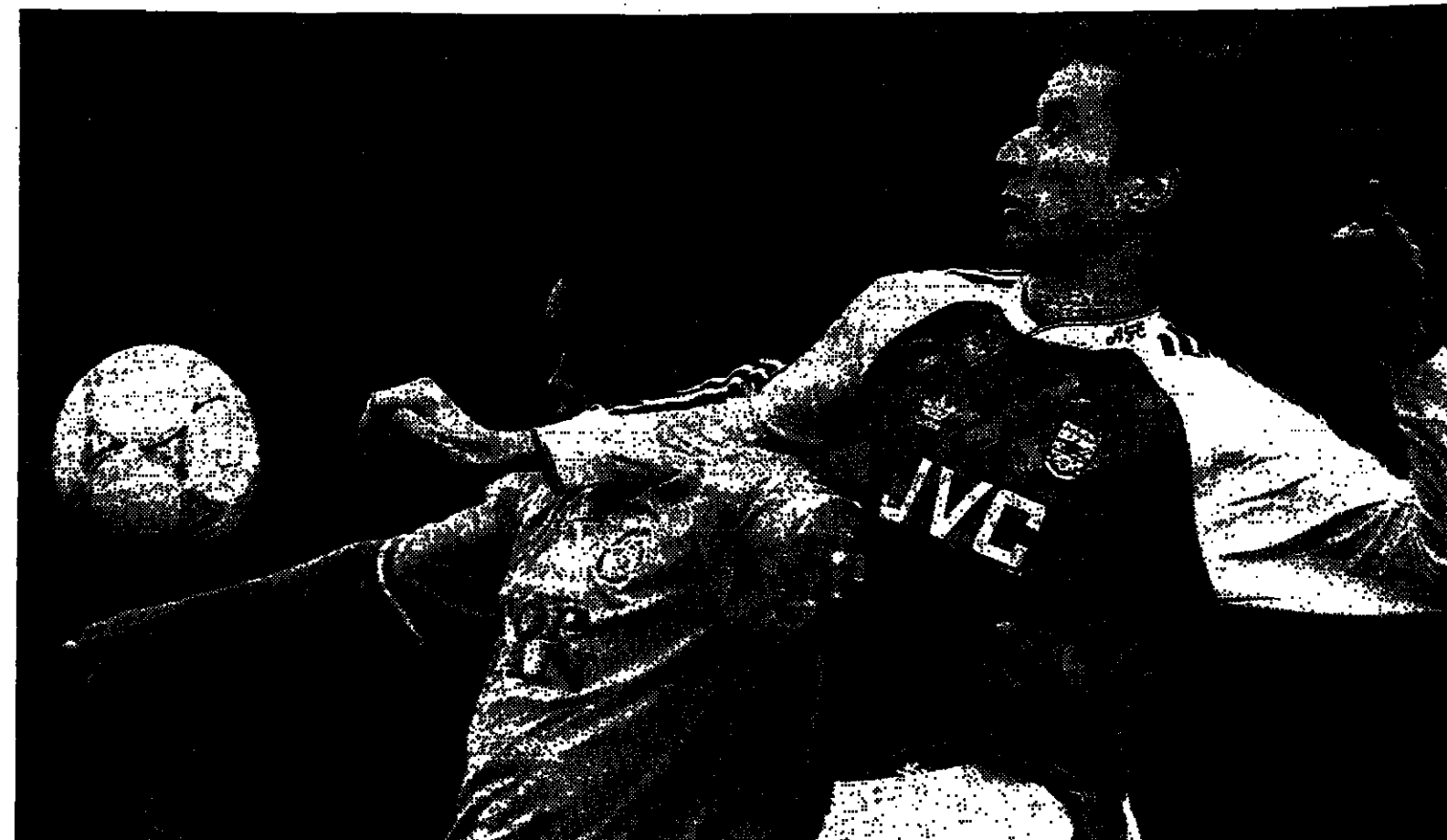
Arsenal 0
Leeds United 0

LEEDS United could on Wednesday end all speculation that Arsenal might this season repeat their feat of two decades ago and win the double. Tiny shards of evidence in yesterday's cramped FA Cup fourth round tie suggested that the first division leaders may be left to concentrate solely on regaining the League title.

They must return to Elland Road, where Leeds have won their last 11 fixtures. It was also there, in September, that Arsenal came close to losing their unbeaten League record. Their 2-2 draw featured a suspiciously offside goal by Anders Limpar.

An equally controversial incident occurred in the 77th minute of the goalless affair at Highbury. George Graham is convinced that Paul Davis was outside before anticipating Alan Smith's intentions and beating John Lukic with a looping header. A television replay supported the Arsenal manager's view that "a genuine mistake" was made. "It was not even a questionable decision," he said. "We are not talking about being level. He was five yards behind the last defender. It is sickening when you work on the offside trap during the week and one of your midfield players makes an intelligent run which is ruled out."

The tie unfolded at such speed that space was so confined and opportunities so rare that the moment would almost have certainly been decisive. The goalkeepers between them had only three saves to make and Howard Wilkinson for one,



Right arms forward: Fairclough (left), of Leeds United, and Smith, of Arsenal, in a tussle for the ball in the goalless FA Cup tie at Highbury

expects the balance to be as equally fine in midweek.

"It was one of those patchy games when all the players seemed nervous," the Leeds manager said. "They looked as though they lacked confidence and yet all of them have had a successful season. The only ones who were assured were the goalkeepers and they were not really tested."

"It would be foolish for anyone to suppose that, just because we've drawn here, it will be anything other than

another hard, tight game. I can see this one running to a few replays."

The accuracy of Wilkinson's prediction has yet to be seen, but the reasons for his side's progress in every competition this season were apparent. They possess the same kind of defiant resilience for which their opponents have become renowned.

Whyte, one of three Arsenal old boys in their formation, and Fairclough restricted Smith and Groves to one genuine opening. It was prevented in the twelfth minute by Lukic - another of the former employees at Highbury. His instinctive reaction was matched at the end by Seaman.

No one was more prominent than McAllister, who was responsible for Leeds's most dangerous threats. Seconds before the interval, he created the clearest opportunity of the afternoon by hurrying Winterburn's tackle as he traced a path along the byline and crossed crisply. Fairclough headed over an unprotected net.

McAllister appropriately also brought the tie to a rousing climax with a ferocious drive which was tipped over by Seaman. Arsenal's goalkeeper claimed his eighteenth clean sheet of their extraordinary season and he has conceded only two goals in the last eight fixtures. One will probably suffice on Wednesday.

Part-timers enjoy glory without the spoils

By WALTER GAMMIE

Everton 1
Woking 0

EVERTON know there are times when winning is more important than the method of victory. That is professional football. So they did not mind that the glory from the FA Cup fourth round tie went to the part-timers of Woking at Goodison Park yesterday.

The Everton players waited on the pitch in front of the stand for the Woking team to complete its lengthy lap of honour to shake hands and acknowledge the quality of the Vauxhall League side's performance.

Woking showed the touch, style and composure which will ensure their cup run will be remembered as one for which the shocks were no surprise to anybody who witnessed their highly skilled football. Fred Callaghan, the Woking coach, said: "You've got to try and play football, that's the way the top sides play. They play the ball around, knock it to feet, play give and go." The abiding memory for Everton supporters will be the stunning goal in the 57th minute by Kevin Sheedy that decided the

match. McDonald crossed from the right, Sharp headed the ball precisely down for Sheedy to sweep in a left-footed volley from 12 yards.

Everton had looked ordinary in attack and ended the match in some disarray with Keown, a substitute defender, playing at centre forward. Cottis, culprit of a bad miss in the first half, had been substituted and Sharp taken off because of an ankle injury.

Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, admitted that several of his individuals played below form but praised his defence. "I was really pleased with the performance of Watson and Ratcliffe, and McDonald for about 85 minutes until he lost concentration towards the end."

Tim Buzaglo, the scorer of three goals for Woking in their 4-2 third round win at West Bromwich, made a worthy opponent for Watson and Ratcliffe.

In the final ten minutes, Buzaglo played a one-two with Shane Wye and won the chase to fire a shot that clipped the outside of the post and went into the side netting. Yet apart from a shot by Shane Wye that ran wide, Woking produced little to trouble Southall after

they had fallen behind.

The defensive certainty shown by Woking and the fact that they did not waste a single pass in the opening 15 minutes were, however, outstanding. Buzaglo sent Franks away on the left for a cross that Pratt headed over and Brown, a forceful presence in midfield, won a tackle, beat one man but shot tamely at Southall.

Sheedy forced a good early save from Read, in the Woking goal, but the Woking defence retained their admirable organisation throughout, with Cowler, the captain, effective at sweeper and Lloyd Wye conspicuous with his tackling.

It was an appropriate final gesture that Biggins and Pratt, back in the dressing room, suggested to the team that they should go on to the pitch once more to salute their followers.

How many will be watching the Surrey Senior Cup tie that Woking play against Walton and Hersham at Kingfield tomorrow was the wry thought.

EVERTON: N. Southall; M. McDonald, A. Hindmarsh, K. Ratcliffe, D. Watson, S. McCall, P. Keown, A. Cottis (sub: B. Keegan); G. Sharp (sub: M. Keown), K. Sheedy, J. Elliott.
WOKING: T. Buzaglo, S. Wye, S. Brown, B. Biggins, M. Franks (sub: P. Muirhead), T. Buzaglo, L. Wye.
Referee: K. Hackett.

Newport may go straight into England Test side

From ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, ADELAIDE

PHIL Newport, whose last experience of Test cricket was a shattering disillusionment against the 1989 Australians, was last night summoned to Adelaide to provide further reinforcement for an England squad perilously short of fit bowlers.

The 28-year-old Worcestershire swing bowler was expected here late today, after being extracted from the England A party presently playing in Colombo, Sri Lanka. His departure was delayed last night when his scheduled direct flight to Australia was cancelled. He had to wait several hours and then travel via Singapore.

Newport will act as cover for Angus Fraser, who has hip and ankle injuries, and Martin Bicknell, who has damaged rib cartilage. If, as seems probable, neither man is fit for the fifth Test in Perth, which starts on Friday, Newport is likely to win his third cap.

He made his debut against Sri Lanka in 1988, taking seven wickets in the match. By contrast, his one appearance the following year was a calamity - two for 175 in the heavy defeat at Headingley

which launched a miserable Ashes campaign.

Newport is the third replacement player called upon by England during this tour although Hugh Morris, the first used, is now back captaining the A team on their disrupted travels. Peter Lush, the England manager, would not discount the possibility that Newport may be released to rejoin the A team, although the condition of the injured men, and the proximity of three one-day internationals in New Zealand, make it unlikely.

"Fraser's ankle is his immediate problem, but his hip is still poor," said Lush. "Bicknell has done some gentle bowling at practice and is feeling better each day. But he is certainly not fit to play yet."

Phil Tufnell, who has been laid low by a throat infection, did not take the field again in Australia's second innings yesterday but was hopeful of being recovered to bowl today. Australia were 68 for four in their second innings, an overall lead of 225, after bowling England out for 229.

Test report, page 27

England A short of seam bowling

From RICHARD STREETON IN COLOMBO

AFTER Phil Newport's summons to Australia, England A expect to learn within the next 48 hours whether they will be provided with a replacement. Unless the A team are reinforced, they would be left with only three seam bowlers, who would have to play in every match. This could be a gamble in Sri Lanka's steamy heat for an itinerary that includes three unofficial five day Tests and five one-day internationals.

It might have been better if the original A selection had included five seam bowlers rather than four and, bearing in mind Blakey's presence as a batsman, two wicketkeepers rather than three. Watkin has a good fitness record, but of the other two seamers left, Pick has already had a back injury on the tour and Munton is taking time to adjust to the heat.

Hugh Morris and Keith Fletcher, the captain and manager, were delighted for Newport, but conceded his absence would be a hindrance to their own team. Morris said: "On the bright side it brings confirmation that the A team is a stepping stone to the Test team and this has given the boys a tremendous flip."

Fletcher said Newport could return to Sri Lanka if he was not required to the end in

Scoreboard, page 31

Gillingham's best time

NICK Gillingham broke the world 200 metres breaststroke best time at the short-course Leicester swimming grand prix last night, spurred on by "my best crowd ever" (Craig Lord writes).

Clocking 2min 08.15sec, Gillingham shaved 0.47sec off the mark set by Joaquin Fernandez, of Spain, at Barcelona last Thursday. "This puts a smile on my face that will be there for the next 12 months," he said.

Results, page 31

Shaw can shine again in fifth round

By LOUISE TAYLOR

GARY Shaw may be a forward with a great future behind him, but he is relishing in an Indian summer which will reach its height when Shrewsbury Town face either Arsenal or Leeds United in the fifth round of the FA Cup at Gay Meadow. Shaw scored the Shrewsbury winner against Wimbledon on Saturday and will relish another chance against the sort of first division defences he terrorised a decade ago.

John Bond, the Shrewsbury manager, is no stranger to the big time either. Ten years ago he was in charge of Manchester City, and neither George Graham or Howard Wilkinson will treat an away trip to face his third division team lightly.

If Liverpool win their replay at Brighton on Wednesday they can contemplate a Merseyside derby at home to Everton. The pair have made seven appearances in the past seven FA Cup finals, meeting at Wembley in 1986 and 1989. Liverpool won both ties, so no wonder Howard Kendall, the

Manchester United, the holders, face an awkward all first division away day at Norwich City. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said: "I have never won a match at Carrow Road."

Tottenham Hotspur travel to Portsmouth, and Manchester City have a similarly tricky trip away to second division Notts County.

After disposing of Middlesbrough 2-0 on Saturday, John Beck, the Cambridge United

manager said: "Now I reckon we can beat anyone at the Abbey Stadium." His third division side yesterday secured their desired fifth round home tie, with either Millwall or West Ham Wednesday.

Crewe Alexandra, the other surviving third division side, are away at either Luton Town or West Ham United.

FIFTH ROUND DRAW: Coventry City v Southampton v Newcastle United, Crystal Palace v Nottingham Forest, Norwich City v Manchester United, Luton v West Ham v Crewe Alexandra, Portsmouth v Tottenham, Liverpool v Brighton v Everton, Cambridge United v Millwall or Sheffield Wednesday, Shrewsbury v Arsenal or Leeds United. Ties to be played on February 16, 17 or 18.

Becker runs away from his greatest triumph

From ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
MELBOURNE

ONLY time will tell whether Boris Becker's victory in the Australian Open will be the start of a new phase in the former Wimbledon champion's career or the beginning of the end of it. In winning his first Australian title at his sixth attempt, Becker also became the No. 1 player in the world, a twin achievement so overwhelming that he could not face the emotion of the moment.

Immediately after his four-set victory over the defending champion, Ivan Lendl, he rushed out of the National Tennis Centre and calmed himself by jogging round a little park just outside the stadium. Some reports even claimed he was heading back to his hotel and had to be persuaded by security guards to return to the scene of perhaps his greatest triumph.

Before the centre was built, the park had served as Speakers' Corner in Melbourne, but Becker had recovered neither his composure nor the gift of oratory by the time he made his reappearance on centre court. "I can't say very much. It's unbelievable at this moment. Thank you all very much. I'm sorry," he told the crowd.

An hour later, Becker said he was

worried he might succumb to the same sense of anti-climax which afflicted Mats Wilander two years ago. Wilander slid from No. 1 to No. 47 in the two years after he became the best in his profession. "I am like Mats in that I am a person of extremes, and I have a little fear that it won't go on any more," he said. "I am not the type who wants to be the No. 1 for five years. I want to move on in life and do something else."

"I hope to be strong enough to stay at the top for two years, maybe. But then I would like to have a quiet private life, with a wife and children, and not be in the front line any more." This understandable urge to run away from the consequences of his own success has surfaced before.

After winning the Davis Cup virtually single-handed in Stuttgart at the end of 1989, Becker had a difficult 12 months, reacting to the pressures of the occasion by refusing to play for Germany in the Davis Cup and losing the Wimbledon and United States Open titles as he struggled to concentrate on playing tennis.

Only the sight of Edberg, his old rival, as No. 1 and some unfinished business in Australia, where he had never gone beyond the quarter-finals, made him don the blinkers

again. He has prepared for the last five weeks in Australia and has been rewarded with his third different grand slam title - only the French closes him - his fifth overall and the No. 1 position he has waited seven years to claim.

"I can't believe it myself," he said. "I have been so close to being No. 1 before, but I didn't really expect to do it here. When I went out to the park I just thought about what I have gone through to do it. Not many people take that step and, when they do, it's a special moment. You cannot plan for it."

In many ways, Becker's victory was a performance quite the equal of the Davis Cup final, not because of the quality of the match, which for long periods lacked pattern and inspiration, but because of the burden Becker has had to carry all fortnight, despite having a highly favourable draw - Lendl was his first opponent ranked in the top ten - and ideally cool weather conditions. If victory meant a lot to him, it meant almost as much to his coach, Bob Brett, who comes from Melbourne. "It was a big moment for him as well as me because this is his town," Becker said.

All those pressures seemed to submerge Becker for the first hour of the match. His legs refused to

work, his sore back needed attention from the ATP trainer early in the second set, and he chastised himself loudly and consistently for every failing. He lost the first set 6-1, as he had in Frankfurt in the ATP Tour finals, the last of his 18 meetings, in November, and if Lendl had managed to take a break point in the first game of the second set, recovery might just have been beyond even Becker's reach.

Instead, as in Frankfurt, Becker worked his way back into the match mentally and, though playing more from the back of the court than his supporters would have liked, grabbed the one chance Lendl gave him, punching away a volley to level the match after an hour and ten minutes.

Lendl saved five set points before losing the third set and, when two breathtaking passes under pressure thwarted Lendl's final effort early in the fourth set, even the defending champion knew it was not going to be his day. "If I had won that first game in the second set, it might have been a rout," Lendl said. "But I have nothing to be annoyed about. I did the best I could."

If Becker needs any guidance on the art of survival at the top, there

can be no better tutor than Lendl. Instead of contemplating a quiet life with his ever-growing family, Lendl is planning a schedule which could take him back to the No. 1 position for the third time before the end of the year.

Defeats by Edberg at Wimbledon, Sampras in the US Open and Becker, which have left him without a grand slam title to his name, suggests that, after 12 years, the edge has gone from his game. Typically, Lendl's response to the slide has been to hire a new coach to work alongside Tony Roche and the fact that he has chosen Chris Lewis, a Wimbledon finalist in 1983 and a fitness fanatic, is proof that he feels that there may be a few more titles, perhaps even that elusive Wimbledon one, still to play for. He also plans to play the clay-court season and probably the French Open for the first time in 12 months.

"Once I start playing a few more tournaments, if I have a good clay-court season, maybe I can start challenging Becker and Edberg again," he said. That might be the incentive Becker needs.

Bates and Durie's title, page 28

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